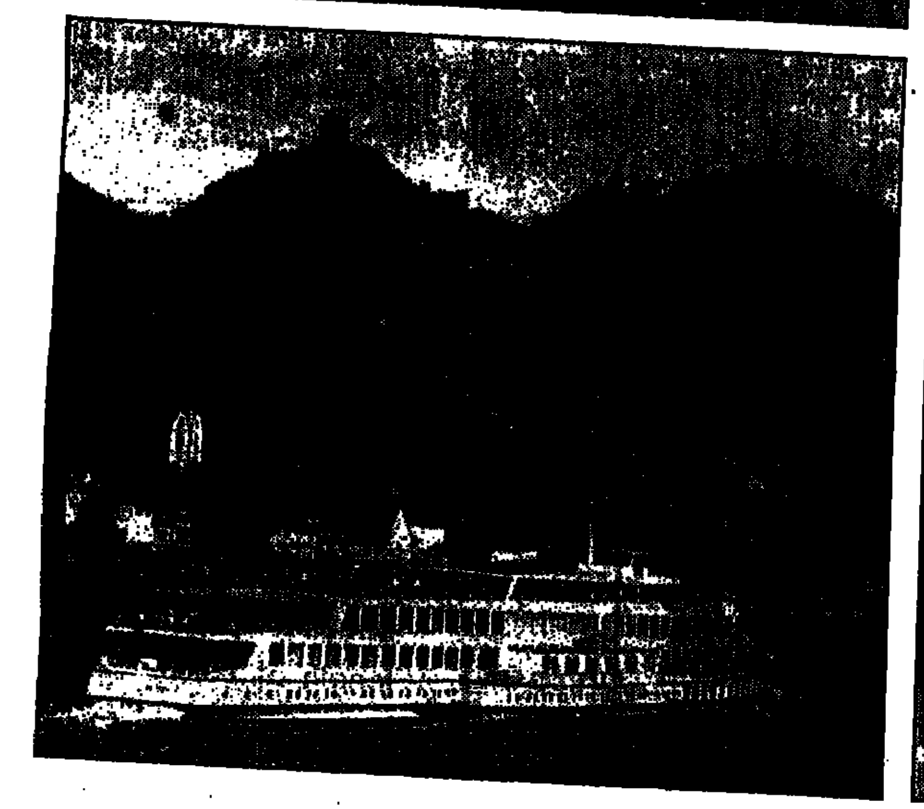








The German Tribune

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Brandt appeals for world harmony at the UN

Frankfurter Neue Presse

In his speech to the UN General Assembly Bonn's Chancellor Willy Brandt proved to be a great moral philosopher, a relentless admonisher and a radical political philosopher worthy of his Nobel Peace Prize. Above all he spoke as a spirited idealist.

The Chancellor is convinced that evil can be kept in check, that good can be done, that violence can be curbed, that hunger is unnecessary, hatred old hat, colonialism eliminable, racism soluble and the use of force avoidable.

Willy Brandt's speech held forth visionary tinges, projecting on to the horizon a world government and world citizenship, something that has not been attempted for a long time.

Within the framework of this grandiose concept Man is fundamentally viewed as good, whereas the late Konrad Adenauer considered human nature to be diabolically ambiguous. The question that immediately arises, of course, is whether the idea and the reality are reconcilable.

The history of the United Nations does nothing if not bear out the historical pessimism of those who foresee not the end but merely the continuation of bloodshed between countries and blocs and feel there to be but feeble traces of what Herr Brandt was pleased to call the universality of human rights.

Ever since the inception of the United Nations the fate of Mankind has depended not on an imaginary world government but on the agreements and disagreements between the United States and the Soviet Union, which emerged from the Second World War as the two arbiters of world power.

Even so, it would be unfaire solely to single out hopes and dreams from the Chancellor's UN speech. If anyone is entitled to formulate a credible theory designed to combat the beast in Man and designate warfare as a cardinal sin in politics, then surely it is a German politician.

Violence and warfare, destruction and inhumanity are all topics to which recent German history amply testifies, and Germany – truncated and divided – has most clearly had to pay the price for the consequences of exaggerated, brutal nationalism.

Supercilious tinpot dictatorships all over the world need only study German history to see where, in the final analysis, shotgun intolerance ends.

Whether Willy Brandt's oratory will improve matters in even the slightest respect is, of course, another matter, but a German Chancellor was entitled – one might almost say under obligation – to point to the dismal lot of his own people as a warning to the latter-day advocates of violence and despisers of human rights.

The Chancellor's speech represents an obligation on the Federal Republic, and Bonn will have to pay the price of its goodwill even if the others leave it in the lurch, but the emphatic way in which Willy Brandt committed himself to the tasks and duties of the UN cannot fail to boost his international authority and his reputation as a chancellor of peace.'

The applause he received was deserved, and the discretion with which he subordinated the German Question to major international conflicts could not fail to make his words sound more realistic. No one, he noted, is going to take the trouble of lending a helping hand to any attempt to restore German unity.

This comment may bear witness to both realism and resignation, but it does not disregard the fact that human rights are an international principle that ought to transcend both frontiers and nationalism of whatever kind.

The situation on the border betweeen the two German states demonstrates how far distant Herr Brandt's targets remain.

Robert Schmelzer

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 27 September 1973)



The Chancellor and the President

Chancellor Willy Brandt had an hour-long conversation with President Nixon at the White House on 29 September. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger took part in the discussions.

(Photo: dpa)

IN THIS ISSUE

Unity remains FRG's aim, Scheel assures the UN

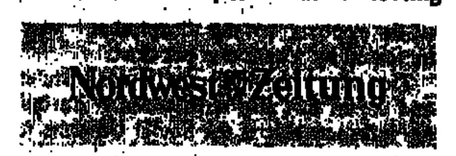
Foreign Minister Walter Scheel, a Nato man, assured all and sundry in his maiden speech to the General Assembly after Bonn's admission by acclamation to the UN that German unity remains one of this country's aims.

Willy Brandt, a European, reiterated this assurance in his maiden speech in New York. The Chancellor outlined his commitment to national unity in a major address characterised in part by human solidarity and an appeal to the emotions.

This first speech by a head of government to this year's UN General Assembly also elaborated the main features of what Bonn's attitude towards the United Nations will be.

The Christian Democratic Opposition may have expressed regret that Willy Brandt was not more explicit about the division of Germany, yet the Chancellor can hardly be said to have provided the Opposition with much opportunity for criticism.

Herr Brandt noted unmistakeably for anyone with ears to listen that one of the two German states still orders its border guards to open fire on would-be refugees and it was equally clear that the Nobel Peace prize-winner did not regard this part of his speech as purely *de rigueur*. Yet the Chancellor remained realistic. His comment that this country had not come to the UN to talk incessantly about German problems bore witness to a common-sense view of a seat of tension in Central Europe that cannot for the time being be relieved. It remains, of course, to be seen whether intra-German squabbles can be kept out of the UN. So far, if the latest shooting



incidents are anything to go by, the GDR has not the slightest intention of implementing the provisions of the convention on human rights.

While East Berlin continues to order its forces to open fire on the Border and at the Wall and erects new emplacements it is asking an inordinate amount of this country to exercise self-control and refrain from lodging complaints at the UN.

Willy Brandt's speech went on to outline this country's attitude towards Third World countries. His words represent an offer on Bonn's part to help to forestall what may prove to be the most dangerous conflicts of the decades to come, the conflict occasioned by the gap between the rich and the poor.

The Chancellor struck a nice balance in his speech by drawing no distinction between black and white in his warning against racism and nationalism. His words of warning against the poison of nationalism were aimed in equal measure at Third World politicians and potentates whose hunger for national prestige makes them blind to the material well-being of their fellow-countrymen.

Last but not least, the European aspect of Herr Brandt's speech came as a surprise. The Chancellor cited the willingness of the European Community's member-countries to progress towards economic and monetary union, uniform welfare provisions and integrated defence and foreign policies as an example of what good neighbours can accomplish.

His comment that Bonn's membership of the United Nations strengthened European representation at the UN bore witness to the new European sentiment.

Willy Brandt made this point and sounded the right note at the General Assembly, providing this country with a good introduction to the UN. He sized up the situation well and had no need to fawn on anyone.

Bodo Schulte

(Nordwest Zeitung, 27 September 1973)

■ FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Brezhnev backs down as Soviet hard-liners gain momentum

Soviet, Eastern Bloc and Western public opinion has been expecting Leonid Brezhnev to clarify contradictory trends in Soviet policies ever since the Yakir and Krasin trials and the campaign against Sakharov and Solzhenitsyn.

Rumours have even gained currency to the effect that differences of opinion have arisen in the Soviet politbureau and that Mr Brezhnev's detente tactics have encountered resistance on the part of Kremlin leaders who feel the style, method and pace of the opening to the West to be upsetting.

The replacement of Shelest and Voronov by Andropov, Gretchko and Gromyko has proved to have complicated rather than simplified the balance of power in the Kremlin. Rather than being concentrated in a few hands the balance of power that has emerged calls for continual adjustment in order to cater for the various lobbies.

In the wake of temporary euphoria about the successes notched up by General Secretary Brezhnev in Bonn and Washington there came chief ideologist Suzlov's mid-July bombshell: a speech in which Mr Brezhnev was given a cold-shower reminder to harbour no illusions about detente policy and to remember the fundamental opposites that separate East and West.

This state of affairs went from bad to worse for the Soviet leader at the early-August Crimean summit of Eastern Bloc leaders where despite the fine words of the communiqué differences arose on this same point.

In his mid-August Alma Ata speech Mr Brezhnev tried to reassure all and sundry but was not entirely successful. His opponents have managed to arrange a show trial against writer Pyotr Yakir and physicist Viktor Krasin and to launch a media campaign against Alexei Sakharov, the "Father of the Soviet H-bomb," and Nobel Prize-winning novelist Alexander Solzhenitsyn.

Mr Brezhnev is keeping himself to himself. Contradictory comments in the Soviet mass media, particularly an odd zig-zag on fundamental issues of East-West relations such as ties with the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany, lead one to assume that a struggle is in progress in the Kremlin and that politbureau votes bear witness to shifting majorities.

This would, for instance, account for the sudden subsidence of the campaign against dissidents and likewise explain the astonishing tactics that have permitted Sakharov and Solzhenitsyn to maintain contact with the West. Yet Mr Brezhnev still had nothing to say for himself.

A few days ago he resorted to a different ploy by enlisting the backing of party leaders in other Communist countries. For no special reason Soviet media featured interviews with Edward Gierek of Poland and Todor Zhivkov of Bulgaria in which their solidarity with the Brezhnev line was made more apparent than of late. Mr Brezhnev was further named a Hero of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and invited to visit Sofia.

These interviews were clearly intended to counteract allegations that detente might weaken the Kremlin's position with regard to its Eastern Bloc allies.

What is more, Mr Brezhnev made use of the invitation to Sofia to realign the emphasis of his policies, though he failed to satisfy anyone who expected him to shed light on goings-on within the Soviet Union. The Soviet leader restricted himself to an interpretation of economic trends in his country and had never a word to say about issues of more immediate interest.

His comments about the state of East-West relations are informative nonetheless. There is a clear distinction between his present attitude and past optimism on the occasion of his visits to the United States and this country. Mutual advantage and partnership with the West were no longer mentioned in Sofia.

Mr Brezhnev has unmistakeably backed on the fundamental outlook behind Soviet foreign policy, which now appears more cautious and indeed tougher.

The Soviet leader's comment that an improvement in the international atmosphere calls for "a completely different approach, different methods and, no doubt, a different turn of mind" from the past oould mean any number of things.

Its specific meaning will presumably come to light in the course of the second phase of the European security conference in Geneva, talks relevant to interpretation of the Four-Power Berlin Agreement and in other practical issues still outstanding in the East-West dialogue.

Alexander Korab

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 26 September 1973)

Brandt meets Nixon during New York visit

Hardly had the White House disclosed that President Nixon might not be visiting Europe this year than Bonn's Chancellor Brandt was invited for talks with the President during his visit to New York for the UN General Assembly.

It is easy enough to see why Nixon is hesitant about visiting Europe and admits as much. He is anxious to ensure that the new system of cooperation in the Western hemisphere on which the United States is so keen does not flounder in fine words and empty phrases.

Secretary of State Kissinger wrote in 1965 that negotiations, including talks between partners, must be serious, detailed and definite. No one in Europe seriously doubts the need for a long-term political deal between the partners in the West on either side of the Atlantic, but are European views both detailed and definite?

In the circumstances it is hardly surprising that the United States is rediscovering the value of bilateral talks with its partners. In the context of the dialogue between Washington and Moscow Bonn, now that it too has come to terms with the Soviet Union, holds the same key position it did in Cold War days.

The French ought not to be surprised either that President Nixon has twice this year felt it necessary to consult with Chancellor Brandt. The French, when all is said and done, have always emphasised the importance for them of bilateral ties in foreign affairs.

Willy Brandt may be happy to see this country occupy a key position at the European end of the US-Soviet dialogue but, as on the occasion of his last visit to the United States in May, it is another matter altogether whether he will want to be quite as specific as Washington would like.

In May the Chancellor sidestepped a number of detailed queries by noting that Washington must as it were work on the assumption that European integration had already been accomplished and that bilateral contacts could no longer result in commitments as binding as in the past.

Were he now to adopt a different approach the Chancellor would be admitting that an integrated Europe will not be joining forces with the United States for the foreseeable future. Bilateral talks would then regain their importance.

(Der Tagesspiegel, 25 September 1973)

EEC regards Comecon ploys without joy

Soviet commentators used to spew forth fire and brimstone whenever mention was made of the European Community, "the economic branch of the aggressive Nato organisation."

Nowadays observers from Moscow comment with an amused smile that the Common Market is just one crisis after another, with everyone at loggerheads and next to no one still thinking in terms of political or military integration.

Even so, the man from Moscow will continue, the Eastern European countries remain interested in trade ties with the Common Market.

This is hardly surprising when you realise that last year's increase in Soviet GNP — two per cent — was the worst since 1929, that in 1971/72 industrial productivity increased by an annual average of 1.5 per cent as against the 3.7-per-cent target.

At the same time imports from the West increased last year by 32 per cent while exports to the "capitalist" West increased by a bare one per cent.

Ties not only with the United States and Japan but also with Western Europe are indispensable if the Soviet Union is to bridge planning gaps in, say, natural gas and oil prospecting equipment, chemicals, light industry machinery, turbines, agricultural machinery, household goods and glass, all of which are creating serious alarm in Moscow.

This being the case, Comecon empowered its Secretary-General Nikolai Fadeyev last June to establish certain contacts with the European Community, as Luxembourg Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn learnt at first hand on his recent visit to Moscow.

"Premier Kosygin gave me to understand that the Soviet Union and its allies realistically conceded the necessity of taking the European Community into account," M. Thorn noted.

This realism was enhanced at the European security conference, where the Common Market countries spoke with one voice, formally declaring that any economic outcome of the talks insofar as it affected Common Market responsibilities would be subject to approval by the Brussels Commission.

Since this declaration the East has realised once and for all that, as Leonid Brezhnev presaged in his March 1972 speech to the Soviet trade union congress, there can be no bypassing the Common Market for those who want to do business with Western Europe.

Within the Common Market it has been common knowledge for some time that countries such as Poland, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria are keen on establishing ties with the EEC, where they hope to buy what they are unable to buy in Russia.

Last year the Soviet Union had a trade deficit of 1,200 million Marks in dealings with its fellow-members of Comecon. In the face of pressure, reports indicate, Mr Brezhnev convinced his Comecon colleagues at the Crimean summit that this state of affairs will have to continue for some time to come.

In other words, the Eastern Europ[ean] countries will have to sell the S[oviet] Union far more than Russia can supp[ly in] return, and when you bear in mind [that] the Eastern Europen countries have [for] last year been heavily in debt to the [West] It is apparent that the West, by giving [the] satellite states credit, is financing [their] deliveries to the Soviet Union.

This being the case, the Com[mon] Market does not seem over-enthusiasti[c to] take up the Comecon feelers, particul[arly] since Moscow will doubtless want [to] channel all its satellites' trade ties w[ith] Western European countries thro[ugh] Comecon, thus subjecting them to So[viet] control.

Hermann Bohle

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 24 Septembe[r 1973])

Kosygin visits Yugoslavia

Frankfurter Rundschau

With statesmen paying each o[ther] visits left, right and centre top[-level] talks between Yugoslav and Soviet le[aders] do not have undertones as sensatio[nal as] they would have been, say, a decade [ago].

Yet Soviet Premier Alexei Kosyg[in] spent an unusual length of tim[e in] Yugoslavia and his visit will have [been] more than mere routine.

Belgrade's foreign and home [policies] remain of interest to Moscow, and th[ough] the Kremlin may have hoped t[hat] domestic difficulties would in[duce] Belgrade to pursue foreign policies [more] convenient from the Soviet view[point] these hopes will have been disapp[ointed] once and for all at the Algiers su[mmit] conference of non-aligned countries.

Largely disregarding ideological d[iffe]rences that were long the bon[e of] contention in relations between the [two] countries and Parties, Moscow would [now] like to establish closer ties with Bel[grade] by pragmatic means.

Capital loans represent a finely-[tuned] means of reintegrating the [la]rgely autonomous, market-orientated Yu[goslav] economy within Comecon, but [the] difficulties that arise are q[uite] pragmatic.

Yugoslav management is uni[formly] unenthusiastic about outmoded S[oviet] techniques that are not only exp[ensive] but also put the recipients [at a] competitive disadvantage from the [start]. This problem has remained unsol[ved on] past occasions when credit faciliti[es were] afforded. It remains to be seen wh[ether] Mr Kosygin succeeds in arriving [at a] solution.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 25 Septemb[er 1973])

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■ POLITICS

Basic contradictions rack Social Democrats

If everything went the way Holger Börner, the SPD's business manager, outlined in his self-confident situation report the case would be over and done with.

Willy Brandt's dressing-down of the Young Socialists — and the party executive's demonstrative support for this step — would have put an end to the embarrassing spectacle of an SPD split over the recent spate of wild-cat strikes and its two wings accusing each other of betraying the workers or harming the trade unions.

A word from the father of the house may have been enough to keep rebellious members of the family in order in the genteel patriarchal society of yesteryear — but the SPD is neither a family nor genteel and the growing tension within its ranks is in no way restricted to the question of wild-cat strikes.

The list of issues under discussion the employment of extremists in the public services, land nationalisation, the practicability of greater control of banks and larger industrial concerns, the imperative mandate obliging members of parliament to follow the party line and the good old German dispute about whether a specific reform modifies a system or only stabilises it — demonstrates the thoroughness of internal party wrangling.

Is this a sign of continually weak leadership as the Opposition claims (despite the fact that the CDU/CSU itself is not a good example of coordination) or is it proof of the strength and vitality of the oldest and largest German political party, as SPD spokesmen claim at party rallies?

The difficulties and conflicts currently plaguing the party cannot be traced back to any one cause. A whole range of objective factors and subjective mistakes all play a role. They can be explained by looking at the four main contradictions the SPD has to live with.

Firstly, the SPD would like to be a party of the workers but it is at the same time a governing party. If unrest is felt on the industrial front as a result of price increases — for which the Brandt government is not completely blameless — the party cannot identify itself with the demands of the workers.

It must insist on adherence to the rules of the game — there must be collective bargaining and the trade unions must not act overhastily in calling members out on strike. It can try to persuade the manufacturers by means of a credit squeeze but it cannot demand price guarantees.

Secondly, the SPD has a large-scale and detailed programme of social reform but as it failed to gain an absolute majority in the Bundestag it remains only one of the parties in a coalition.

The Free Democrats, the smaller coalition partner, can impose its veto whenever it wishes on such questions as worker participation in decision-making, the accumulation of capital wealth and the fundamentals of capital wealth and the fundamentals of the tax reform.

Many Young Socialists demand an imperative mandate obliging members of the Bundestag and ministers to adhere strictly to party resolutions. The compromises that have to be reached with the FDP as the junior coalition partner would then be almost impossible.

Thirdly, the SPD must remain a popular party if it does not want to jeopardise its election success of November 1972 and if it plans to break the Opposition's majority in the Bundesrat, or Upper House.

But some members of the party seem to be aiming for a socialist cadre party, though not one of a bureaucratic character. This can only be reconciled with demands for internal party democracy and ideological pluralism as long as all groups and organisations within the party adhere to the written and unwritten rules of the game.

The displeasure felt by many right-wing Social Democrats at the way unpopular councillors are dealt with on Frankfurt and Munich city councils, the occasional heartfelt sighs by Ministers Hans-Jochen Vogel and Georg Leber (Leber is evidently finding it hard to deny a skilfully compiled report that he plans to resign), and the protests of some local trade union leaders indicate that not all party members look upon the fair treatment of political opponents in their own ranks as a matter of course.

Fourthly, according to its traditions and the way it currently sees itself, the SPD is a party dominated by its members — the formation of democratic will rises upward from the roots. But in its fight to replace Adenauer's CDU as the governing party, it too has accidentally become a "Chancellor's party".

What Willy Brandt says is of overwhelming importance to the party, as could be seen at the Hanover party congress and, more recently, as the meeting of the party executive when he turned the motion reprimanding the Young Socialists into what was tantamount to a vote of confidence. Both his strengths and his weaknesses played a role here.

Willy Brandt is credited with reacting more quickly to foreign than domestic policy. He has often been hesitant when confronted by internal party quarrels. For a long time many exponents of both the right and left wings of the party were able to claim that "Willy" was behind them.

The SPD will be able to live with these four basic contradictions.

Günter Geschke

(Deutsches Allgemeines Sonntagsblatt, 16 September 1973)

Opposition faces tricky decision on non-proliferation

This autumn the Opposition faces a difficult foreign policy decision. It will have to decide whether to approve or oppose signature of the non-proliferation treaty.

Franz-Josef Strauss, leader of the CSU, first set the ball rolling on 12 September when he wrote to all the CDU/CSU's Bundestag members calling on them to reject ratification.

Strauss justified his demand by claiming that if the Federal Republic signed the treaty the Russians would have at their disposal another instrument by means of which they could decide the fate of Germany and Europe.

Members of the CDU/CSU parliamentary party do not consider Strauss' action as anything unusual. Members of the Bundestag often inform colleagues of their views by means of a letter. More attention is paid to action of this type when it come from a man like Strauss, they claim, but it must not be seen as a move against CDU leader Helmut Kohl.

Kohl refused to commit himself on the non-proliferation treaty as he first wished to hear the findings of a CDU special committee under former Foreign Minister Gerhard Schröder.

The committee will examine all aspects of the non-proliferation treaty in order to give members more information on which they can base their final verdict. It is not yet known when the committee will finish its work.

The signature of the non-proliferation treaty puts the CDU/CSU in a tricky position. The government majority in the Bundestag is sufficient for the law of ratification, but the so-called "law of verification" requires the approval of the Bundesrat, or Upper House, as it governs financial questions.

If the CDU/CSU majority on the Bundesrat rejects this law, this would be tantamount to the rejection of the whole non-proliferation treaty, while voting against it in the Bundestag would have no repercussions. The CDU/CSU will therefore have to make up its mind how it is to vote in the Bundestag and Bundesrat.

It appears at present that the majority of the CDU/CSU Bundestag group are for its rejection. But on the other hand the party knows that a similar vote in the Bundesrat would not be understood by our European partners.

On the home front, rejection of the non-proliferation treaty would worsen the chances of a future coalition with the Free Democrats for which Helmut Kohl is evidently aiming.

But the CDU/CSU cannot afford to vote differently in the Bundesrat and Bundestag if it wishes to retain its cerdibility. So far the Opposition has failed a find a way out of this dilemma.

Werner Bollmann

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 21 September 1973)

Young Socialists wish to preserve unity, Roth claims

The Young Socialists are determined to preserve the unity of Social Democracy in he Federal Republic, their leader, Wolfgang Roth, claims. Without a united SPD it would not have been possible to conclude the treaties with Moscow and Warsaw, Roth said at the end of a six-day visit to Poland with a Young Socialist delegation.

Speaking about the controversy surrounding West Berlin's links with the Federal Republic, Roth stated that the Young Socialists would not accept any state of affairs in which their West Berlin members were treated differently to the rest of the organisation.

Roth criticised the Poles' intention of hoisting the West Berlin standard at the planned international athletics match between Poland and the Federal Republic in Warsaw. The Federal Republic's Athletics Association has now called off the match in view of the Poles' plans.

During their stay the Young Socialists signed an exchange agreement with the Polish socialist youth organisation.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 25 September 1973)

CDU leadership's new policy – battle at any price

The new style of leadership favoured by the CDU's new duo — party chairman Helmut Kohl and his general secretary Kurt Biedenkopf — now seems to have crystallised after several months' running-in.

It could be described as battle at any price. This tendency could be observed a few weeks ago when Biedenkopf surprised the party executive by suddenly announcing his controversial proposals for worker participation.

The same tendency also led to the recent appointment of the controversial Walther Leisler Kiep as the executive's spokesman on foreign policy.

Both these events caused a considerable stir within the party. It suddenly revealed the conflicts which have long racked the CDU but have always been patched over in the past through reaching dishonest compromises.

Kohl and Biedenkopf have once again steered the Opposition into internal conflict. Biedenkopf's proposals on worker participation prompted lively criticism from the left-wing of the CDU while failing to gain the praise of the industrialist wing.

Kiep's views, based as they are on adapting CDU policy to the basic elements of government Ostpolitik, are violently opposed by broad sections of the CDU and by most of the CSU, the party's Bavarian counterpart.

Although this could be foreseen, Kohl and Biedenkopf have identified themselves both with the controversial proposals on worker participation, and the appointment of a controversial foreign policy spokesman. Why are they provocatively opening old wounds?

It would be too simple to claim that the two new men at the head of the CDU leadership stumbled into these problems with the increased fallibility of newcomers. Both can be credited with knowing what they are doing. Kohl has had many years in government as premier of the Rhineland Palatinate and Biedenkopf is without doubt a calculator and analyst who always thinks things out thoroughly first.

A more revealing explanation would be that the two men are deliberately touching upon the sore points in the party in order to end the era of indecision in the upper echelons of the CDU and demonstrate that they have the qualities of leadership.

Another probable reason for their action is the realisation that delaying discussion of problems is of no use to a political party. The problems must be brought out into the open so that they can be solved in general discussion, however painful this may prove. This is evidently part of the process of contemplation and renovation that the CDU has so often called for though rarely practised.

The advantages of solving problems in this manner are obvious. The party would gain new strength and become more attractive to the electorate. Opportunities would also be greater for a coalition with the Free Democrats.

This may be what Kohl and Biedenkopf are aiming for. Biedenkopf's proposals on worker participation and Kiep's views on Ostpolitik will both be regarded sympathetically by the FDP and could also be interpreted as an approach by the new CDU leadership.

Of course the policy of strength adopted by Kohl and Biedenkopf also has its dangers. Kohl could also fail in his efforts if the various groups within the CDU refuse to turn to the problems affecting the party and overthrow the leadership instead. Time will tell whether the CDU/CSU has in the meantime learned from the SPD that political success depends amongst other things on party solidarity.

Heinzgünter Klein

(Der Tagesspiegel, 21 September 1973)

■ SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Government's foreign worker policy only scratches the surface



Dear Minister, aren't we having too much of a good thing? I realise we need foreign workers but do we really need any more?" Many letters written in this general tenor indicate to Minister of Labour Walter Arendt that the general public takes lively interest in this domestic problem.

The debate is now in full swing. While some people criticise the social discrimination against foreign workers and the lethargy and xenophobia displayed by the authorities, the majority call for an end to immigration and the reduction of the present number of foreign workers to a more tolerable level.

While the former group demand an expansion of social infrastructure to cope with foreign workers, opponents of further immigration state that the construction of schools and houses and the integration of foreigners could make the Federal Republic an even more attractive prospect for immigrants.

But both sides agree that the present state of affairs cannot continue or cities like Berlin, Munich, Frankfurt, Cologne, Stuttgart and Solingen/Remscheid will soon become "super-Marseilles".

The Federal Republic would then face, in the words of a senior government official, American conditions with ghettos, a subproletariat and a division between the priviliged local population and the exploited alien coolies.

One of the forecasts of the interministerial report on foreign workers published in June this year has already materialised. "Social conflict cannot be ruled out in the event of further uncontrolled employment of foreign labour," the report stated. Events at Fords of Cologne underlined this. Thirty-five per cent of the almost four million foreigners in this country (including 850,000 minors) live in twelve cities.

The government has tried to cater for both shades of opinion in its foreign worker policy. Further immigration is to be reduced and at the same time the social conditions of the foreign workers and their dependants already living in this country are to be improved. The main aim is to counter the speed of immigration, the numbers involved and the concentration of foreign workers in specific cities.

The programme decided upon in July is cautiously described by its authors as an attempt to solve the problem.

The most successful move so far was the decision to make the Nuremberg-based Federal Labour Bureau responsible for the recruient of foreign labour. This step will result this year in an increase of only two hundred thousand foreign workers, less than half the previous growth rate.

The Federal Labour Bureau can now be selective. When a Federal Republic consulate recently applied for a work permit for seven Turkish workers and it was discovered that all were married and had a total of thirty children, the Bureau refused.

But the Labour Bureau was unable to prevent what recently happened in Munich. The city council decided to appoint two Turkish language teachers in view of the large number of Turkish children in the city. The two teachers came – each with seven children.

Another measure, the increase in the recruitment fee from three hundred to one thousand Marks, has more drawbacks than merits. Foreign workers are no longer hired indiscriminately, it is true, and the State no longer has to subsidise the employment of foreign labour – in the past the fee charged scarcely covered the price of the foreign worker's air ticket, which is paid for by the Federal Labour Bureau.

But on the other hand efficiently-run firms find it easy to pay the one thousand Marks charged for each foreign worker recruited. These firms are normally located in the main urban areas and therefore attract foreign workers to where social conditions are worst.

So far a third measure, a ban on employment agencies from hiring out foreign labour, has had no visible effect. In this branch the misuse of foreign labour was particularly bad. But now the 5,400 firms which live from hiring out human labour are no longer allowed to employ foreign workers.

The fourth step taken will have little effect. From 1 October onwards housing inspectors will be able to make on-the-spot checks on the accomodation firms provide for their foreign labour force and ban further residence if living conditions are inadequate. But no decision has been taken on what happens to the foreign workers affected in cases of this type and the regulations do not cover private landlords.

The fate of the fifth reform proposal is uncertain. It was suggested that there should be a ban on the employment of further foreign workers whenever they made up twelve per cent of the population. Twelve towns would be affected by this measure. But the Federal state of North Rhine-Westphalia opposes any restriction as it fears that its economic growth might be jeopardised.

Exploiting illegal immigrants will be penalised in future with prison sentences of no less than six months. There are also plans to levy a fifty to one hundred Marks charge on firms for every foreign worker they employ.

But Bonn admits that the measures taken so far can do little more than set people's minds at rest. They do not solve the problem of how to integrate foreign workers into society.

The extent of the foreign worker problem can best be illustrated by taking the Turks as an example. Some six hundred thousand work in the Federal Republic and this figure will increase as soon as Turkey becomes an associate member of the European Economic Community and Turkish workers are allowed to work wherever they want within the Community. There are already more than one million Turks waiting for a Federal Republic work permit.

Turkish workers find the Federal Republic attractive because of working conditions, high wages and above all social benefits. Children's allowance too has been increased considerably under the latest tax reform. A father of five children will receive a children's allowance of 480 Marks a month fr[om] 1975 – fifty for the first child, sev[enty] for the second and 120 Marks per c[hild] from the third onwards. Foreign wo[rkers] tooo will be entitled to chi[ldren's] allowance.

The government has two altern[atives] where the payment of child[ren's] allowance to foreign workers is co[ncer]ned. It could make payment depen[dent] on the residence of these children in t[he] Federal Republic. There would then b[e a] veritable invasion of Turkish fami[lies,] most of them large, and expenditure [on] infrastructure would rise consider[ably] along with the problems of integratio[n.]

Children's allowances

The government could also p[ay] children's allowance for children living [in] Anatolia. Once again, the effects wo[uld] be fatal. The Turkish birth rate wo[uld] rocket. Considering that the av[erage] monthly wage in Anatolia is sixty Ma[rks,] having children would prove a worthw[hile] occupation.

Attempts by the Turkish governm[ent] to control the population explo[sion] would be thwarted – Ankara alre[ady] expects the population of Turkey [to] double to seventy million by 1980 – [and] a fresh generation of would-be im[mi]grants would grow up.

Almost all steps taken by [the] government will have a double-e[dged] effect. Social tension is inevit[able] whether naturalisation is made easi[er or] the current state of affairs retained. I[t] is one of the undesirable after-effec[ts of] the Federal Republic's economic mi[racle.]

Eduard Neuma[ier]

(Die Zeit, 21 Septembe[r 1973])

Call for fewer foreign workers

Four million or more foreign workers will be employed in the Federal Republic in 1985. Together with dependents, between 6 and 6.7 million foreigners will be living here by that date.

"The employment of foreign labour is becoming a social problem," Nuremberg Chamber of Trade and Commerce concludes from statistics compiled by the Regional Structure Development Association, a scientifically independent organisation of the Industry and Trade Conference (DIHT).

Both bodies recommend immediate measures to cut the flow of immigration so that large-scale measures will not be needed in future.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 September 1973)

Hamburg paper has section for foreign workers

The *Hamburger Abendblatt* has become the first daily newspaper in this country to print regular foreign-language news for immigrant workers. The foreign-language texts are supplied by the consulates general of the countries concerned and are printed free of charge. The consulates general are responsible for the articles.

News in Greek appears in the Monday issue followed during the remainder of the week by information for Italians, Yugoslavs, Portuguese, Spaniards and Turks. Some one hundred thousand persons of these nationalities live in and around Hamburg.

(Welt am Sonntag, 23 September 1973)

New Bills to simplify welfare legislation

The Bundestag has approved the first reading of the general section of a new Social Welfare Code that should enable the man on the street to know and understand his social welfare rights and assert them more easily.

People claiming their social welfare rights in a court of law will no longer have to wait so long for the verdict. Spokesmen for all Bundestag parties also approved the first reading of a Bill speeding up legal proceedings in this sector.

Government plans – drawn up by Minister of Labour Walter Arendt – to ease the integration of all handicapped persons into professional and social life, peg pensions to the cost of living and give greater protection to piece-workers also met with broad approval even though the CDU/CSU Opposition demanded greater concessions to the farmer. The five Bills were passed on to the appropriate committees.

Welfare legislation has been split up in the past into a large number of separate

STUTTGARTER NACHRICHTEN

laws. These are now to be simplified and brought together under the new Social Code.

Arendt described the new Social Code as the citizen's social charter. The dissipated welfare legislation of the past would be radically simplified and therefore made more comprehensible, he claimed.

There was broad agreement on a number of points:

- The Social Code should list all social benefits in easily understandable lang[uage] and grant persons the right to [...] information or immediate aid when t[hey] wish to receive benefits to which they [are] entitled.
- Special preliminary proceedings in cases involving social security will be [set] up in order to relieve courts of a g[reat] deal of their present work and speed [up] proceedings. The Federal Social Co[urt] will also have some of the work taken [off] its shoulders so that it can take importa[nt] decisions more quickly.
- Rehabilitation grants – restricted in the past to victims of war injuries o[r] industrial accidents – will in future b[e] awarded to all mentally and physica[lly] handicapped persons, irrespective [of] cause, when their ability to work a[nd] earn has been cut by half or mo[re.] Persons coming into this category [will] receive an additional six day's holi[day.] Firms with more than fifteen emplo[yees] will be obliged to set aside at least [six per] cent of their posts for the seri[ously] handicapped or they will be subject [to a] levy of one hundred Marks a month.
- From the beginning of 1974 o[ld age] pensions for farmers will be increa[sed to] 264 Marks a month for married me[n and] 176 Marks for unmarried men. They [will] then bepegged to the cost of living.
- Piece-workers working at home [will] receive wages comparable to th[ose] negotiated by trade unions for worke[rs in] similar lines of industry.
- Self-employed persons working [in a] similar capacity to salaried staff [...] wage earners and free-lance broadca[sters] should be granted the right to negoti[ate] pay deals similar to those concluded [by] trade unions.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 21 September 1973)

■ PEOPLE

Irma Tübler invades Defence Committee

The Bundestag Defence Committee is no longer an exclusively male reserve. Irma Tübler, a Christian Democrat from Kiel, is now a full member of the committee. Before the elections she was only a deputy member.

So in future a woman will help the government take decisions in questions of armament. And the Defence Committee will attach great store to her verdict on such issues as the provision of new posts for conscientious objectors doing social work instead of military service.

"My colleagues asked me to take over this job and I naturally agreed," Irma Tübler comments. This is new territory for the fifty-year-old politician from the specialist point of view though not from the human angle.

As a former member of the city council in Kiel, an important port and naval base, she is well aware of the problems facing the armed forces and she established contacts with the navy long before her appointment to the Bundestag Defence Committee.

"The soldiers are quite glad to have a woman looking after their interests," she comments. "Where more personal problems are concerned for instance they prefer to turn to a woman than a man."

Irma Tübler therefore helps recruits in financial questions, advises wives who have to leave their army accommodation after gaining a divorce and calls for the establishment of day nurseries at the more remote bases to give wives a chance of escaping their isolation by going out to work.

Irma Tübler visiting a naval base (Photo: Mönch)

She is currently seeking better accommodation for recruits doing service on warships. The Americans, from whom the Bundeswehr obtained some of its warships, had enough land accommodation at their disposal for the sailors.

The Federal Republic's sailors on the other hand are forced to live in their cramped cabins on board ship. "There is a shortage of seven thousand service flats for sailors whose ships put in at port." Irma Tübler explains.

Whenever she hears of a grievance, Irma Tübler examines whether or not it is justified. She visits barracks and goes on board warships. A mother of three with four grandchildren, she does not believe in leaving the armed forces to her male colleagues. "After all, the boys who are called up have mothers," she comments.

Young people who dodge national service are a thorn in her flesh. "But I have the greatest respect for those who refuse military service because of their convictions," she concedes. She still believes however that those who do their military service should receive more adequate compensation.

Irma Tübler is a maternal type who knows how to assert herself in a world governed by men.

(Neue Hannoversche, 19 September 1973)

Ralf Dahrendorf appointed director of LSE

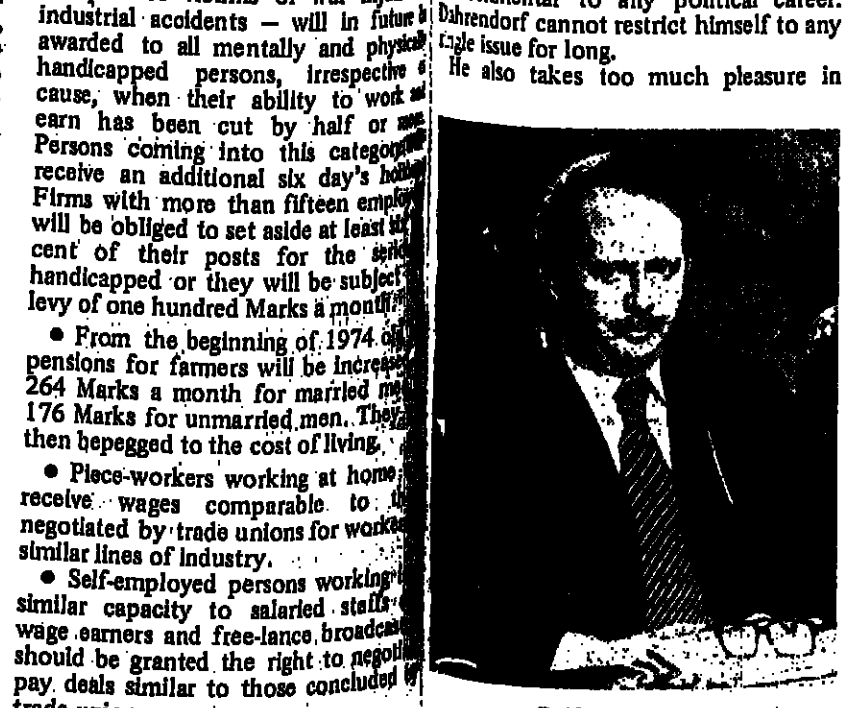
Ralf Dahrendorf, 44, a professor of sociology, member of the Common Market Commission, former Foreign Office State Secretary, ex-member of the Bundestag and Provincial Assembly, member of the Federal and local executive of the Free Democrats, has been appointed director of the London School of Economics.

Dahrendorf's political career has been meteoric. Its eight stages have been covered within a period of five years. What other German politician can claim the same?

It must be added that Ralf Dahrendorf is not actually a politician. He does not bother about his political standing within the party and has never tried to manipulate parliamentary majorities.

He likes the intellectual variety that politics offers – indeed his liking for it is detrimental to any political career. Dahrendorf cannot restrict himself to any single issue for long.

He also takes too much pleasure in analysing, probing and debating political events to be stimulated by them occasionally. He likes to allow his thoughts to wander instead of concentrating on what can in fact be achieved.



Ralf Dahrendorf (Photo: dpa)

Dahrendorf started his meteoric political career in 1968 at the age of 37. The colourful professor of sociology came along at just the right moment for Baden-Württemberg's Free Democrats as the party was in the middle of its difficult transformation from a middle-class party to a left-wing, liberal grouping.

He was immediately elected to the executive of the Baden-Württemberg branch of the party and was later voted on to the Federal Executive. He worked on the 1971 party programme and encouraged a party that was afraid of not obtaining the five per cent of the votes required for entry into the Bundestag. The Free Democrats had a good chance of providing the Chancellor in 1973, he stated.

He entered the Bundestag at his first attempt and was immediately appointed Parliamentary State Secretary in the Foreign Office. But he soon clashed with government supporters over Ostpolitik.

Dahrendorf moved to Brussels where he was responsible for the European Community's foreign trade relations. A number of observers considered that he had been deliberately manoeuvred into a political dead-end. At the beginning of the seventies it appeared unlikely that trading policy would play a major role in the European Community alongside the entry negotiations.

But the experts were wrong. Trade policy became increasingly important in view of the growing confrontation with the United States over trade and monetary issues.

Dahrendorf played a key role in the Commission. He was the first person to call for the new round of international trade talks that have just begun. But his debut before the European Parliament came when he was forced to defend a regulation calling for the standardisation of mayonnaise.

He looked upon this event as a symbol for a Europe bogged down in petty ideas of standardisation, a Europe that quarrelled about the harmonisation of trifling matters but lacked the vigour required for genuine political cooperation.

Writing under the pseudonym Wieland Europa, he published an article which was harshly critical of the Economic Community and contained a mixture of hard fact and unjustified attacks.

But Dahrendorf was not the blame for the end of his European career when it came. When Francois Xavier Ortoli was appointed president of the Common Market Commission, the French had to forgo their responsibility for the Community's economic and monetary policy. Wilhelm Haferkamp, the vice-president, took over this key post at Bonn's insistence.

But this also meant that the Federal Republic's other member on the Commission could not retain such an important post as trade. Dahrendorf then became responsible for the Community's education and technology policy, a post tailor-made for his inclinations as a professor of sociology.

But it was soon discovered that European opportunities in this sector were few and far between. It was therefore only a question of time before Dahrendorf, who now really appeared to have reached a political dead-end, decided to leave Brussels.

Dahrendorf has now opted to move to London. His departure from Brussels also marks his departure from politics, at least for the next few years.

Thomas Löffelholz

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20 September 1973)

Ronnenburger takes over deputy floor leadership of FDP

Uwe Ronnenburger, the Free Democrat from Tetenbüll in Schleswig-Holstein who was elected deputy chairman of the FDP Bundestag party on 18 September, is neither a brilliant rhetorician nor a particularly striking personality.

He is rather a quiet and inconspicuous person. But Ronnenburger, a farmer, pipe-smoker and father of five children, has managed to keep the Schleswig-Holstein branch of the FDP integrated. Schleswig-Holstein's Free Democrats owe their leader a good deal – perhaps even their survival.

After the last elections to the Provincial Assembly nobody gave Schleswig-Holstein's liberals a chance. Suicidal internal wrangles had led to a split with the ultra-right and the downfall of the rest of the party. Hopes of revival were slim. But Ronnenburger was stubborn enough not to let this bother him.

He survived defeat – the 3.8 per cent vote at the 1971 elections to the Provincial Assembly – and then led his party to new heights. The elections to the Bundestag brought Schleswig-Holstein's Free Democrats 8.6 per cent of the vote and raised hopes of their return into the Provincial Assembly.

After the 1975 elections to the Provincial Assembly Ronnenburger might therefore be able to swop his position as deputy floor leader in Bonn with that of party leader in the Kieler Provincial Assembly.

He plans to run in the Provincial Assembly elections whatever happens, and not just pro forma, he insists. His appointment as deputy chairman of the FDP Bundestag party can also be explained with one eye on the Provincial Assembly elections. But this is not the only reason. He was elected by both left and right-wing members of the party. Both wings have equal respect for him.

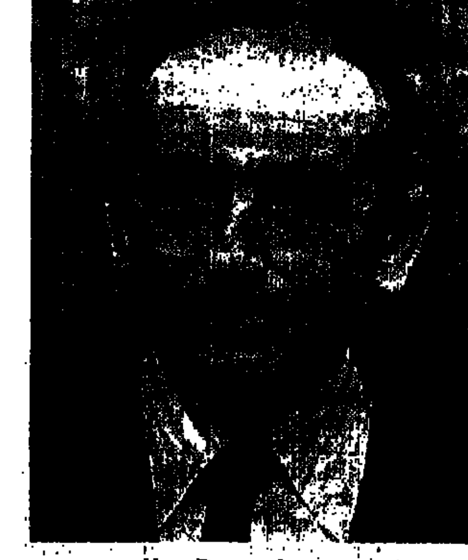
Ronnenburger, born in Kiel on 23 November 1923, was a first lieutenant on a torpedo boat during World War Two. He then joined the Deutsche Partei before switching to the FDP in 1959.

He has learned his lesson. His support of Ostpolitik and a more conciliatory attitude towards the German Democratic Republic, even at a time when the FDP threatened to split over the issue, is ample evidence.

Friedrich Hölscher, the Baden-Württemberg liberal who stands far to his left, once described Ronnenburger as a man who would not scare a fly off a person's nose but persuade the person that he was sitting in the wrong place.

Uwe-Karsten Heye

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 22 September 1973)



Uwe Ronnenburger (Photo: dpa)

■ FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Both sides of industry should not forget tax reliefs planned

It is difficult for the man in the street to grasp just what is happening at present with regard to taxes, prices, wages and salaries. There seem to be all kinds of contradictions. Appeals for moderation are followed closely by wage or salary concessions, even in the Civil Service. Tax reliefs are promised but with the limitation that one must wait until 1975.

It is not easy to reduce this to a common denominator. But if one tries to do so the best that can be managed is that stabilisation policy, the attempt to prevent the decline in the value of money, has reached a particularly critical stage.

Decisions for reform of the taxation system such as the Bonn Cabinet has reached in the past week should not be taken at their face value. They are not short-term measures but constitute a redistribution of emphases for a considerable time and not just economic steering for the next six months.

Since there is a close connection between the value of money and the taxation system it is essential to regard the latest fiscal reform proposals from the point of view of how they will fit into the economic landscape.

These taxation measures will, when they come into effect, lead to actual reliefs for those who are overburdened, not just people who draw relatively small incomes but also in the income brackets that are attained by relatively few.

It seems that the government has created for itself a certain amount of room for manoeuvre. When these tax reliefs come into force, probably 1 January 1975, they will still be worth something. Depreciation of the Mark will not have rendered them useless.

Reliefs of forty, sixty or 120 Marks per month are on the cards. The mass of the populace will at last begin to feel for once that there is less to pay the taxman instead of more.

The decision recently taken do not contain any gurantee that the well-known procedure whereby the more the Mark depreciates the more likely the taxpayer will have to shell out more than his income really allows will be brought to an end.

But the Opposition's accusation that the "latent tax increases" are just being "continued and cemented" is overlooking important factors. For as long as this far from contentious system applies, with larger incomes being taxed proportionately more heavily, such effects of inflation cannot be satisfactorily brought to an end. Relief can only be achieved by fairly frequent adjustments of tax scales, lump sums, tax-free allowances and the like. These adjustments would have to be made anyway.

Will the prospect of tax reliefs the year after next help to clear the way for moderation in the next few months?

The atmosphere in many companies at present is far from good and relations between the two sides of industry are tense.

Just how strong the pressure that has built up is can be seen from one incident. Almost at the same time as Economic Affairs Minister Hans Friderichs was calling for moderation at the automobile show in Frankfurt and criticising some companies in the metalworking industries for bonuses they had granted their workers to cover rises in the cost of living his colleague in the Cabinet Hans-Dietrich Genscher was agreeing to payment of a full thirteenth month's salary in the Civil Service, even though he gnashed his teeth as he did so.

This is not a lack of coordination in the Cabinet but action taken under pressure and duress.

The shock waves caused by the wildcat strikes in the metalworking industries which spread to other branches have still not completely died down. The trades unions continue to fear that they will lose control of their members. Employers fear that if they do not make slight concessions now they will have to make massive awards later on.

The Bonn government still seems to entertain the hope that the two sides of industry will get things under control again before long and reach agreements that are not a slap in the face for all attempts at stabilisation.

Once again we are at a stage where little will come of pondering whether wages have been chasing the tail of prices or vice versa. Little remains of the good intentions expressed at the beginning of the year at collective bargaining when moderate rises of eight and nine per cent were agreed.

Three months ago real wages and salaries in industry were twelve per cent higher than at the same time last year and prices continued to rise. Since then there has been a further rise. Even the Civil Service has agreed to increases of around eleven per cent. This is decidedly more than is needed for a serious attempt at stabilisation.

One should not forget that the government's stabilisation programme with surtax on companies and people in the higher income brackets have only been enforced since mid-year.

Agreed, the tough line taken by the Bundesbank has been in effect for longer, but not even the Bundesbank can achieve a greater degree of currency stability in six months. A policy of stabilisation is a long-winded business. It takes time.

If as a result of bonuses, special wage agreements and the like, and a substantial tax relief arrangement greater purchasing power is brought about the potential for price rises, which at the moment is on the wane, will quickly pick up again and prices will soar. The stabilisation policy has not collapsed completely, but every further step which is taken will be over perilous terrain. This is even true of the suggestion that the tax-free allowances on Christmas bonuses should be raised.

It is probably too much to hope that the two sides of industry will take full account of the tax reforms promised by the government for 1975. But if they neglect these reforms completely it will deal a severe blow to stabilisation policy.

Heinz Murmann

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 September 1973)

Unemployment, a growing risk Bundesbank maintains

In its monthly report for September the Bundesbank, Frankfurt, speaks of the heavy responsibility borne by the two sides in the metalworking industry. The danger that productivity and the level of employment could be reduced is now much greater than it was in the past.

For the moment, however, the economy continues to run flat out. The restrictive policy of the Bank of Issue is making use of all the available room for manoeuvre to prevent continuation of the inflationary process in this country.

Throughout the summer the basic tendency of this country's economy continued upwards. Signs of a general cooling down of the boom have so far been limited to a few spheres of the economy.

Largely because of the continued export boom the tendency to make capital investments has been virtually unabated. Consumer demand in the past few months has also been relatively lively. Orders in hand in industry have as a result continued to increase.

Industrial concerns had a bulwark of three months of turnover in orders pending in July, for instance. Over the past ten years the average leeway of incompleted orders has been ten weeks.

The number of situations vacant remains high and the demand for migrant workers is as great as ever. By midsummer there were an estimated 2.5 million foreign workers in the Federal Republic.

The Bundesbank has come to an interesting conclusion which is worth listening to. People in this country looking for jobs have not always been successful of late, whether it be for reasons of regional distribution or qualifications. Since mid-year the number of people out of work, rather than declining by the normal seasonal levels, has increased slightly.

The increase in price of manufactured products (July: 7.2 per cent) has reached a new record level. These price rises and the gradual whittling away of the real value of past wage increases have caused a deterioration in the wage policy climate in the past few months.

Wildcat strikes have led to considerable cost of living bonuses, and in industries such as metalworking effective earnings have been increased by two to three per cent.

As a result of this the effective earnings in the first six months of 1973 were 12.5 per cent higher than in the previous year and have thus not lagged behind general wage trends.

In 1973 as a whole the net real income will be three per cent higher than last year. Furthermore in the first half year the incomes of workers have increased as much as incomes on the management side.

Thus the two sides of industry in forthcoming negotiations will bear a heavier burden in more ways than one. On the one hand large wage increases will add to the burden of costs and cause rising prices. On the other hand it must be remembered that the leeway for further price increases is likely to be reduced as a result of increasing competition from abroad and a possible change in the climate with regard to investment.

The result of this will be that after a while increased costs will cause a decline in productivity and could effect the level of employment.

This danger is considerably greater in the present phase of the economic cycle than in the past when there was a strong increase in demand.

Generally speaking the Bundesbank has been defending its policy on the money market. At the moment it cannot view as its primary task the prevention of high interest rates on the day-to-day loan market — as a result of more stringent minimum reserve requirements for banks.

An unconditional stabilisation of interest rates on the money market would culminate in a re-financing guarantee of the Bundesbank to finance houses.

Finally the Bundesbank concerns itself with the situation on the capital market, where the currency returns on money bonds have dropped by one half of a per cent in the past six weeks. Domestic economic factors do not suggest that a further decline in interest is on the way.

Thus it would be fallacious to consider this development to be the beginning of an intentional slackening of credit policy restrictions. It is far more a consequence of the international with regard to interest rates resulting from the bloc floating in the Community.

In its restrictive policies the Bundesbank cannot lose sight of these limits but will have to use all the room for manoeuvre at its disposal so as to prevent further inflation.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 18 September 1973)

The FRG and the World Bank

The Federal Republic plays an important role among the more than one hundred members of the World Bank and its two subsidiary bodies, the International Development Association (IDA) and the International Finance Corporation (IFC).

As can be seen from the latest report published by this most important of credit bodies for the Third World the Federal Republic was the second most important financial contributor to the Bank after Japan in the business year (30 June) 1972—1973.

Almost 380 million — 22 per cent — of total loans originated from the Federal Republic (Japan supplied 35 per cent).

The Federal Republic became a member of the World Bank in August 1952. It joined the IDA and IFC immediately they were formed — in 1956 and 1960 respectively. At present this country holds 5.68 per cent of the capital — $1,370 million.

Of this only ten per cent has been paid in — the rest serving as security capital for writing off debts on the international capital market.

The importance of the Federal Republic in the World Bank is shown by the fact that the Bank took $3,880 million dollars of its capital between 1952 and 1953 from this country's capital market.

On the other hand the importance of this institute as a client for this country's industry is growing. The orders financed or partially financed by World Bank and IDA funds are internationally underwritten in member States and in Switzerland.

Up till the end of 1971 Federal Republic suppliers received payments of $1,080 million. This amounts to about eight times the amount of capital paid in by this country, but only a fraction of the funds drawn her.

Among the West German "suppliers" consultancy firms have recently been enjoying increasing successes, though in the early days they experienced some difficulties in gaining a foothold in the World Bank, mainly because they were so far removed from Washington, where all the important decisions were made. They had to play second fiddle to American consulting which dominated the market.

Subsidiary organisation IDA has recently been gaining in importance. In only two business years it has managed to increase its loans threefold and has thereby achieved two-thirds of the volume of business of the parent body (in 1968 the ration was still 1:8).

By the middle of next year, after completion of the third stocking-up period, this country's contribution to IDA will have reached about [illegible] million. International negotiations are at present under way to determine the size of the fourth stocking-up period which has not yet been decided.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 17 September 1973)

AIR, RAIL & SEA

Cruise liners are finding the going tough

DER TAGESSPIEGEL

Kaiser Wilhelm once made a misjudgment in his military megalomania by claiming, "Germany's future lies on the water". In 1973 the same fallacy seems to apply to the civilian shipping branch and luxury passenger liners in particular.

It was three months ago that we heard the shock news that Hamburg's Deutsche Atlantik Linie had sold the 25,320 GRT Hanseatic to Home Lines Inc., belonging to the Greek shipowner Vernicos Eugenides.

Recently this beautiful snow-white vessel left Cuxhaven under this country's flag for the last time, bound for Genoa. 25 September is the date set for handing over the *Hanseatic* to her new owners. She will be renamed *Doric* and will sail for Home Lines under the Panamanian flag.

Simultaneous with this sad turn of events we had confirmation of the speculation that had been rife for some time that for DAL things were not going well, even after the sale of the *Hanseatic*. So dicey is the situation of the line that the future of its 25,022-ton *Hamburg* hangs in the balance.

This is the most modern Federal Republic passenger liner, built in Hamburg at a cost of 100 million Marks. She is to receive the traditional name *Hanseatic* now that the original ship of the name has departed. And the *Hamburg* will take over the programme of cruises that was once carried out by the old *Hanseatic*.

This includes a cruise in the Caribbean among the West Indian islands, costing at least 4,940 Marks per person, and a cruise to Rio de Janeiro for the Carnival with a double cabin costing at least 6,330 Marks per person.

But for those who like a cruise it is still not certain whether they will be going to the Caribbean or Rio under the West German flag. As a precautionary measure DAL has given notice to its staff for the end of the year.

At a Hamburg press conference recently the Chairman of the DAL Supervisory Board Kurt A. Körber, a successful Hamburg industrialist said that the company's position was "difficult, but by no means catastrophic".

He added that he was reasonably certain that the company was not on the verge of bankruptcy, but he did say that the line's present position was rather like walking a tightrope that was supported by only one pillar!

The *Hanseatic* had lost the company about fifteen million dollars since 1969, since its Caribbean cruises were patronised mainly by Americans and the value of the dollar had fallen steadily in that period.

Herr Körber felt that attempts to keep the line afloat with only one luxury liner following the sale of the *Hanseatic* was impossible, despite the infusions of capital.

There are several roads DAL could take. It could possibly enter into a cooperative venture with another Federal Republic shipping line or sell abroad and liquidate. Attempts at both these methods of saving the ailing line have been tried in the past few weeks.

DAL is holding talks with the largest West German shipping line Hapag-Lloyd of Hamburg and Bremen on the possibilities of entering into a cooperative venture. One way of organising this would be for DAL to remain largely independent and throw its *Hanseatic* (ex-*Hamburg*) into the Hapag-Lloyd passenger traffic at present plied by the *Europa*. The alternative is for DAL to be taken over by Hapag-Lloyd lock, stock and barrel.

But it was learnt at the Hamburg press conference that as yet no specific terms for a merger have been mentioned by Hapag-Lloyd.

Axel Bitsch-Christensen, a Dane who has made Hamburg his home and who founded DAL, is at present engaged in trying the other possibility — sales overseas. Christensen has resigned from his post as business affairs manager of DAL. He is back in his native Denmark calling on fellow-countrymen who have cash in hand, hoping to interest them in his company's plight.

In a recent press release he stated that his aim was to sell the *Hamburg/Hanseatic* to Denmark so that board and land staff of DAL could continue to find employment with the company — Danish shipping law makes this possible.

The DAL supervisory board has given Christensen until the end of September to get such a deal signed, sealed and delivered. It is hoped that by that time a concrete offer will have been made by Hapag-Lloyd. Then a meeting of DAL shareholders will be called in the second half of October to decide which way this particular cookie should crumble.

Whatever the outcome of these manoeuvres one thing remains clear — Deutsche Atlantik Line and the *Hamburg* are at present more than 52 million Marks in the red. Twenty million Marks in credit has been obtained from the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW). The city of Hamburg has given a surety for the 22nd to 48th million — largely because it views the continued operation of the *Hamburg* as an important prestige matter for the city that calls itself "gateway to the world".

However, Hamburg is somewhat disillusioned about the whole business now that the ship is to be renamed and will possibly be sold abroad. City Councillor Professor Peter Deneffe, speaking at the press conference on behalf on the city's economics and transport authorities, expressed the Council's misgivings about the future of the vessel.

Creditors of DAL and those who have lent the line money must also be disappointed. For the interest on loans and repayment rates for 1973 have still not been paid. These amount to about 7,100,000 Marks in all. Only the KfW has received its interest. The outcome of talks begun in March with other creditors for an extension of loans is still not known.

Kurt A. Körber, one of the most important backers of the *Hamburg*, has said that he would be prepared to offer further assistance to help the company out of this jam. But "only if there are prospects of a worthwhile cooperative venture in sight". He is hoping that other members of the DAL supervisory board and shareholders will be prepared to give further aid to the ailing shipping line.

DAL business affairs manager Gilbert Freiherr von Holtzapfel said: "A reasonable solution to our problem will only be found if travel agents and passengers retain their confidence in the line."

But just how great the lack of confidence of the Hamburg authorities is was hown by Professor Deneffe. Asked if the city of Hamburg would be prepared to give further help to the line and the liner, which is supposed to be good propaganda for Hamburg, if there was a chance that further sureties would help save the vessel from sale overseas he replied: "As things stand at present I do not believe the council will be prepared to embark on a higher degree of risk." Damning words from the most important man in the economics and shipping department after the Economics Minister himself.

Hinrich Grote

(Der Tagesspiegel, 19 September 1973)

Merchant marine cutbacks

Overall cutbacks in merchant shipping were at a record level last year. The total cutback in the number of merchant ships in the past five years has been only slight, but the decline in tonnage has been 56.5 per cent.

According to the 1973 Yearbook of the Institute for Merchant Shipping in Bremen last year 188 ocean-going freight vessels with a total tonnage of 1,056,904 GRT were taken out of service. This was thirteen more than the previous year and an increase in tonnage made obsolete of 112,935.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 6 September 1973)

Railways only ones to benefit from air-traffic controllers go-slow

On the hundredth day of the air-traffic controllers' go-slow there were once again delays of up to ninety minutes at airports in this country. But none of those involved in this dispute seems prepared to announce the imminent end of this unpopular industrial action.

The best reassurance the Transport Ministry could give on the hundredth day of the go-slow was that it would not last a further hundred days.

A spokesman for the Association of Federal Republic Air-Traffic Controllers (VDF) shares this hope, but says that he can see no concrete reasons for believing it will be fulfilled.

At some airports it is feared that short-time working will have to be introduced if this industrial action continues when the summer boom in air charter traffic has come to an end.

Since the beginning of the go-slow on 31 May Lufthansa claims to have lost business worth about 150 million Marks. Airports in this country reckon their losses to be in the region of twenty million Marks.

About seventy per cent of internal flights have had to be cancelled. In Lufthansa's case this has meant a cutback of 12,400 flights. On those flights that did get off the ground Lufthansa passengers have been delayed a total of 5,400 hours in these hundred days.

The company has issued figures concerning the effects of all industrial action taken by air-traffic controllers since 28 October 1968 — 14,800 flights cancelled and 44,000 hours delay.

The longest delay caused to a Lufthansa flight during the present campaign has been four hours. The number of passengers carried has declined accordingly.

While 292,000 people flew with Lufthansa in July 1972 the number carried in the same month this years was only 148,000. Lufthansa have introduced a new extra to their service, the "go-slow snack", which at least satisfies the stomachs of waiting passengers, if nothing else.

According to Herr Stang, the VDF spokesman, the campaign by the air-traffic controllers has not yet petered out. "We are not prepared to state how successful the campaign has been but in the past few days there have once again been unprecedented delays in air traffic. The Transport Ministry is trying to play down the whole business. This is part of its strategy."

Among the other aspects of the Ministry's strategy have been an injunction against the flight controllers and disciplinary action against individuals.

When discussing the budget the Cabinet has most likely taken into account the improvements in pay that will have to be awardet to the controllers. Transport Minister Lauritz Lauritzen's proposals have not yet been formally approved. But they do serve as a basis for negotiations with union organisations. Lauritzen still refuses to enter into direct discussions with the controllers' association.

For the moment all those involved in this dispute are suffering. Waiting times before take-off are so great that despite the severe cutback in services Lufthansa has to keep all its crews on call. One spokesman said: "We never have a crew free."

Up till now no Lufthansa personnel have been laid off or sacked as a result of this campaign, but there are doubts about whether this can continue. All personnel that were not urgently required and who had already taken their holidays have been offered unpaid leave and free flights.

Hanover airport was closed when the go-slow was at its height, and since then short-time has been introduced for more than 300 people employed there. At Munich-Riem airport short-time working may be introduced for 540 staff in October, though approval for this has not yet been received. In Hamburg no new staff are being taken on and it is feared that important specialist operatives will leave for other jobs.

Service industries at airports have suffered severe losses as well. At the new Hanover airport shops are only able to survive this crisis because they are mostly branches of large organisations.

At the airport restaurant in Munich turnover has dropped by about 25 per cent since the start of the go-slow.

The only beneficiary of the go-slow appears to be the Federal Railways. On their Trans-Europe Express services in June, July and August they had between ten and sixteen per cent more passengers than in the same period last year. On several occasions they have and to tack extra coaches on those trains.

On occasion passengers have taken advantage of the fact that Berlin traffic is given preferential treatment and, when flying from Hamburg to Munich for instance, they have made a detour via Berlin. Berlin's controllers are under the supervision of the American military. They are not taking part in the go-slow and many Berlin flights are processed punctually at Federal Republic airports.

(Münchner Merkur, 7 September 1973)

■ TRANSPORT

Driving test statistics surveyed by a computer

Frankfurter Rundschau

One million people a year take the driving-test and the tuition they are given leaves much to be desired. Mistakes are made not only by the learners themselves but also by instructors and even by examiners, it is concluded from a computerised survey conducted in Cologne.

The survey was conducted by the Rhenish Technical Supervision Association or TÜV, to give it its German initials, the agency responsible for conducting compulsory two-year roadworthiness tests on motor vehicles and a host of other standards and safety work.

Teaching and examining methods, teaching aids and even the kinds of vehicle used for lessons and the test drive came in for a good deal of criticism and suggestions for improvements at a conference held recently in Cologne by the TÜV and attended by several hundred driving-instructors.

The driving-test regulations, which were not long since stiffened, will be made even tougher in the foreseeable future, according to Erich Braun, a Bonn Transport Ministry official. Black marks and awarded according to a prearranged percentage system during the test-drive. Ten per cent used to be enough to fail; the current maximum permissible percentage of black marks is seven, and this figure is to be reduced still further.

Over a period of months the Rheinish TUV fed its computer with the results of some 65,000 driving-tests. Twelve per cent of the written highway-code test candidates and 12.7. per cent of the candidates at the wheel were failed.

"The most influential factor appears to have been the choice of driving-school," the TÜV states. There were schools whose candidates never failed the test and others where one learner in two failed. The wide range between these two extremes testifies to differences in the quality of instruction.

Herr Hirschberger, the TÜV engineer in charge of the computer, reckons that bad driving-schools will be sent threatening letters by the authorities. A licence has not been withdrawn for years, he ventured to imagine, although in theory this was entirely feasible.

The less successful instructors invariably attribute their poorer showing to the fact that they also take on elderly and less talented learners. TÜV statistics certainly prove that the younger you are, the more likely you are to pass your driving-test at the first attempt.

"A driving-school that virtually instructs university students only accordingly shows up extremely well," Hirschberger confirms.

Computer statistics indicate that only 10.7 per cent of the under-24-year-olds fail their driving-test whereas the corresponding percentage for 45- to 59-year-olds is 17.4.

Women are invariably better at motoring theory than men yet prove poorer when it comes to driving the vehicle. They are let down relatively often by elementary shortcomings such as the inability to back into a parking-lot and the like.

The actual figures are: 10.3 per cent of women fail the written test as against 13.7 per cent of men, while 14.1 per cent of women fail the driving-test proper as against 11.4 per cent of male candidates.

The use of a manual or automatic gearbox made little or no difference as far as the failure rates were concerned, but according to Herr Hirschberger learners who are taught in cars with automatic transmission are trained more poorly because they do not take so many lessons. Yet nowadays one driving-test in two is taken in a car with automatic transmission.

At test centres in small towns more candidates fail the written test (13.1 per cent as against 11.9 per cent in cities) but the driving-test proper is a little easier (the failure rate in small towns or the caountryside 'is 10.3 per cent as against 13.1 per cent in the city).

The TÜV advocates a review of test centres to determine whether or not all towns currently in use are really suitable. Waldbröl, a small country town in the Rhineland, ran the risk of forfeiting the right to be a driving-test centre because it had not a single set of traffic lights. In order to avert this catastrophe the local council bought and installed a set.

The computer also brought to light a certain number of irregularities among examiners, who are in fact TÜV officials. According to Professor Kuhlmann, director of the Rhenish TÜV: "One of our ambitions in conducting the survey was to ensure that examiners judge candidates more evenly."

One examiner will fail only five per cent of his candidates, another will fail thirty per cent. Examiners who diverge so much from the average are being advised to toe the line.

"Unwillingly, indeed unwittingly, many an examiner will gradually come to specialise in certain shortcomings, as it were," Professor Kuhlmann added. The one examiner will be particularly keen on use of the rear mirror before starting off' whereas another will be specially critical of right-hand turns and yet another of reversing.

Failed candidates seldom complain, though. "They keep their complaints to themselves and their nearest," Kuhlmann says. In cases where official complaints are lodged it is usually the evidence of the examiner against that of the candidate; the instructor keeps himself to himself, he has to live with that instructor in future.

Professor Kuhlmann felt it to be particularly regrettable that the statistics provided no indication of the number of lessons learners take.(It must be added at this point that in this country tuition at a driving-school is compulsory to all intents and purposes since there are no provisional licences as in Britain and learners have to drive a vehicle equipped with dual controls, which are slightly too expensive for a husband to install and technically be his wife's instructor or vice-versa.) Even when either the candidate or the instructor voluntarily venture the required information they seldom tell the strict truth.

Certain models are more difficult to pass in, the TÜV statistics reveal. One of them is the Volkswagen Beetle, especially when it is fitted with headrests.

In view of the results of the survey the TÜV demands are for a levelling-out of differences in the quality of driving-school instruction, more intensive tuition of older would-be licence-holders, improved theoretical tuition, especially of male candidates and more intensive practical tuition for women.

The TÜV also feels that a driving-licence theoretically valid for life ought only to be issued to people who pass their test in a vehicle with a manual gearbox.

According to Herbert Bock and Karl-Heinz Schaffran, both TÜV specialists, tougher examination papers have not led to better results. They come to the sad conclusion that candidates generally learn from the questions asked rather than by attending theory lessons beforehand.

Both men further feel that audio-visual techniques will eventually render the exam paper superfluous, both during instruction and during the examination itself.

Complicated equipment has been replaced by devices corresponding to a slide projector. Pupils can be shown several diagrams per question and must necessarily answer within a specified period of time. The instructor can speed up the process to make the course tougher and force the pupil to pay attention.

Hans Wüllenweber

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 8 September 1973)



(Photo: Manfred Vol

Minicabs on overhead track in Hagen

After four years of preparation the first section of the experimental cabin taxi system has been inaugurated by Bonn Science Minister Horst Ehmke in Hagen, Westphalia. As yet it consists of one stop, one section of track and two cabs, mounted above and below the guiderail respectively.

The trial section will be extended according to a prearranged schedule and largely financed out of public funds. Once the four-stage project is concluded as at present conceived it will consist of track to and from three stops and a service point, which will enable engineers to test the system in practice.

The cabin taxi scheme is sponsored jointly by Demag and Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm and in receipt of government subsidies. The aim is to combine the advantages of individual travel and public transport on local routes.

The passenger will jump into a waiting cab (similar in appearance to a motorcar) at his nearest stop. The cab accommodates two or three passengers and a fair amount of luggage. He dials his destination and leans back while the cab noiselessly glides automatically and computer-controlled in the direction he wants to go.

Everything is automated. Service engineers are all that are needed. Even the stops are automatically cleaned. A complex system of electronic controls ensures that the cab negotiates points in the right direction, accelerates and slows down as required and keeps its distance from the cab in front.

Two cities, Hagen and Freiburg, have commissioned a survey from the manufacturing consortium in order to determine whether a cabin taxi system might solve their transport problems. In theory at least it certainly would, not only for these two but also for pretty well every medium-sized town in the country.

In the Hagen area, for instance, the network as foreseen will cover a region where it would one day serve a population of 400,000 people.

Both for the potential passengers and for the municipal transport authority factors in favour of the choice of a cabin taxi system include the opportunity of travelling in private, as it were, yet making next to no noise (electric power and rubber wheels), giving off no exhaust fumes, catering for a substantial load capacity and tailoring the scheme to fit in with existing facilities.

Cabin taxis can be run on bridges, and stations can be fited to walls and indeed the entire track can be routed through shopping centres or department stores. The system is also labour-saving in the extreme.

Peter Odrich

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 7 September 1973)

Motor mart 'not saturated' research unit claims

Munich's Ifo economic research unit sees no reason to assume that the car trade in the Federal Republic of Germany is on the brink of saturation point.

In its latest report on the economic position, dealing this time with the motor industry, Ifo researchers come to the conclusion that saturation point will not be reached until there is a vehicle density of between 350 and 400 per 1,000 head of people. The current figure is 275, which is dismissed as "quite modest."

The trend to two-car families will bring considerable influence to bear on developments. Ifo refers to the United States, where the second-car boom set in towards the end of the fifties, at a time when vehicle density, at 300 per 1,000 people, was already higher than it is in this country at present.

Growth during the seventies will be modest and within reasonable bounds, but there need be no fear of a structural crisis, the economic research staff claim. They base their figures on the assumption that there will be an annual growth rate in terms of newly-registered vehicles of three per cent. Growth will not start to tail off until the early eighties.

The extent to which the domestic motor industry will be able to switch to export markets will depend on models, prices and on whether or not domestic manufacturers switch production to foreign markets too.

World demand for motor vehicles will continue to increase up till 1980, in which year thre will be a demand for 37 million privat cars as opposed to 27.5 million last year.

(Neue Hannoversche, 12 September 1973)

■ **MEDICINE**

Neurosurgeon outlines neurosurgical problems at Nuremberg conference

So much new and startling information has been gained recently about inflammatory diseases of the central nervous system affecting children that the Paediatric Association congress in Nuremberg could not ignore the subject.

The range of complaints covers both well-known ailments such as meningitis and specific viral diseases which were first only recognised as such when contracted by animals but which have now been observed to be the outcome of a virus infection in the case of human beings as well.

But it was a neurosurgeon and not a paediatrician that held the congress spellbound. Professor Wolfgang Schiefer, head of Erlangen University Neurosurgical Hospital, dealt with the various

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operations possible on brain abcesses, accumulations of pus and other complications arising from inflammatory diseases of the brain and then cited an admittedly extreme situation which would force a doctor to examine his conscience at length before finally taking a decision.

Professor Schiefer outlined the broad range of opportunities open to the surgeon where diagnosis, surgery and other forms of treatment are concerned. But he did not conceal the difficulties facing neurosurgeons.

There are two main reasons for these difficulties. Firstly, there are the peculiarities of a child's organism which may react differently to an operation than an adult's. Secondly, the infectious nature of disease may take the decision to operate more difficult but it can also make it inevitable.

Bearing in mind this uncanny dual nature of all surgical operations, Wolfgang Schiefer cited the case of a child with a congenital deformity of the spinal column, a special form of spina bifida known as myelocoole typified by hydrocephalus and other anomalies as well as by the protusion of the spinal cord through a defect in the vertebra.

"Should a surgeon operate in a case of this type even when there exists an inoperable paralysis of the legs, bladder and intestines and the child is mentally handicapped, will never be able to take care of himself and will probably die sooner or later of a complication that cannot be cured?" Professor Schiefer asked.

His answer spoke for itself: "Modern medicine can achieve so much by means of surgery that the only question is whether there is any point in conducting a planned operation."

Professor Schiefer could have made no more effective mention of the responsibility forcing neurosurgeons and paediatricians to take joint action, especially in cases involving inflammation of the central nervous system.

Seen in this light – and science should always be forced to make problems appear so intelligible – the talks given at the congress on the various diseases affecting the central nervous system took on new significance.

In his opening address as congress president, Professor Adolf Windorfer, head of Erlangen University Children's Hospital, stated that meningitis was today the most common disease endangering the life of children and claimed that the equally dreaded encephalitis was still not given due attention in the medical world.

His claim was backed up by what two paediatricians, Professor I.B. Mayer of Homburg and Professor I. Ströder of Würzburg, had to say about meningitis and encephalitis.

As Mayer said in his excellent speech, we know today that apart from viruses such important factors as the growth, development and maturity of the child's brain contribute towards the emergence of encephalitis.

The strength or weakness of the child's immunological defences determine the severity of the disease. The younger the child's organism is, the worse the cell damage caused by viruses.

To put it another way, the organism's sensitivity decreases as its discriminatory faculties increase. Unfortunately, nature is so complicated that no fixed set of rules can be drawn up. It is also too soon to speak of effective medical treatment.

Professor Ströder stated that an inadequate immunological system could also increase the severity of an attack of meningitis. Cases of meningitis reach their peak in the summer months. One of the main causes is an inborn error of metabolism. Multiple sclerosis too is almost certainly a virus-induced disease of the nervous system.

Alfred Püllmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 September 1973)

Space travel has transformed thought patterns

Scientist and journalist Professor Karl Steinbuch has described the development of space travel as an epoch-making turning-point for millions of people.

Opening the first International Congress for Aeronautic and Space Medicine in Munich, Professor Steinbuch stated that experiencing the Earth as a planet in space had led to a similar change in human thought as Nicholas Copernicus' discovery five hundred years ago that the Earth did not stand at the centre of the universe.

"Space travel has transformed the thought and conduct of millions of people more thoroughly than any other event in recent decades," Professor Steinbuch stressed.

Among the effects of this turning-point is the greater attention paid to environmental protection and international communication. The public would not have recognised the threat of pollution if it had not been shown a picture of the Earth flying alone through space, the Professor claimed.

The international communications network enables greater solidarity among people living under varying political systems, he stated. It is wrong to condemn technical progress because of the dangers it entails, he argued. What he described as human progress is becoming increasingly vital to cope with the problems at hand.

Some 450 doctors from 54 countries attended the congress. Apart from the Federal Republic, the United States was well represented. The American delegates mainly spoke about the Apollo and Skylab programmes and examinations of aerospace medicine. Twelve Russian scientists spoke of their experiences in the Soviet Union.

Professor Erwin Lauschner, who chaired the congress, stressed the importance of aerospace medicine. Every year between ten and twenty million air passengers – over three per cent of the total carried – are under constant medical treatment.

Every doctor today must deal with the problems of aerospace medicine as a result of the increase in air travel. Professor Lauschner therefore stressed the need of incorporating aerospace medicine in university medical courses. At present no university in the Federal Republic has a chair of aerospace medicine and courses in it are only offered by six universities.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 September 1973)

Dentists with bad teeth

Delegates attending an American dentists association congress conducted a spot-check of the dentist's own teeth – and their findings were depressing. According to the medical journal *Zahnärztliche Praxis*, published in Munich, 95 per cent of the dentists attending the congress were found to have bad teeth. Sixty per cent had caries and 35 per cent diseases of the gum. Only five per cent had healthy teeth and gums.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 15 September 1973)

Underwater treatment

Underwater therapy has a great fu... ahead of it, according to Dr Jo... Reusch of the life rescue associati... DLRG. Dr Reusch claims to have cur... circulatory disorders, serious cold diseases involving high blood pressure an... the after-effects of heart attacks b... treating patients in pressure chambe... capable of simulating conditions fort... metres below sea level.

Speaking to the 650 doctors attendin... a medical congress in Vancouver, Canad... Dr Reusch stated that it may also pro... possible one day to radiate cancer suffere... under high pressure conditions.

He also spoke of the successf... application of high-pressure therapy ... the treatment of fractured bones, bur... defects of the eye as well as duri... surgery. Dr Reusch placed patients in t... pressure chambers he has developed a... exposed them to a pressure equivalent ... that found at a depth of forty metres.

As a passionate diver, Dr Reusch fo... a number of years back that if any o... fellow-divers with a cold spent a leng... period of time at a depth of forty met... they would return to the surface alm... completely cured.

Reusch believes that the cura... process is encouraged by the increas... enrichment of the blood with oxygen a... result of the high pressure preva... below surface level.

Reusch has already conducted so... thirty thousand high-pressure exp... ments on more than seven thou... patients. He first treated pat... suffering from vertigo, respiratory t... ble, states of shock and arteriosclero... his two steel chambers. He attached t... to breathing apparatus and produced h... atmospheric pressure by feeding comp... sed air into the chambers.

The results of some of his experi... possess an oddity value. He manag... instance to cure a dog of partifal par... by means of this high-pressure treatm...

Reusch, who is head of the Institu... Physical Therapy and Rehabilitatio... Nittel, near Trier, passed on the results ... his experiments to the doctors f... twenty countries attending the Inte... tional Congress for High Pres... Medicine.

Experiments with high-pressure ch... bers were conducted in South Afric... the United States two years ago. T... method was used at this time to h... make childbirth easier.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 September 19...)

Behavioural scientists probe the human clock

Deep inside Bavaria's "holy mountain", unseen by pilgrims journeying to the church and beer garden at Andechs Monastery, scientists of the Max Planck Institute are busy tracking down the mysteries of the biological clock that governs the rhythm of the body's physical functions and is usually only noticed when it breaks down.

If a traveller flies from Frankfurt to New York for instance he will have to put his watch back five hours after his eight-hour flight. But by the next morning at the latest he will have found difficulty in adjusting his physical functions.

He will wake up at his normal hour – which is the middle of the night in New York. He will often feel unwell for days and will not be able to approach his work with his accustomed verve. The simple explanation for this is that his biological clock needs time to adjust.

Bremer Nachrichten

Scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Behavioural Physiology in Erling-Andechs conducted a series of experiments in two subterranean chambers built into the hill beneath Andechs Monastery.

They already knew that the physiological functions of the human organism are subject to change during the course of the day and that physical performance and sensitivity towards outside impulses depend on the time of day.

Experiments on rats revealed that the same dose of X-rays led to death within thirteen hours when administered in the evening and only after 120 days when administered in the morning. Demands were then made that medical treatment for humans – the use of drugs or radiation – should be adjusted acco... to the time of day.

So far two hundred people have sp... three or six weeks in the subterran... caves completely cut off from the outs... world. As they were unable to s... sunlight or hear radios or other sou... that might give them a clue as to the ti... of day it was, the human guinea pi... depended solely on their own sens... time. The scientists soon found ... considerable difference between the d... of their guinea pigs and the ... 24-hour rhythm governing life on th... surface.

The inhabitants of the undergro... chambers soon began to bed down ... noon and start work at midnight. The... was a corresponding shift in th... vegetative functions such as the acti... of their kidneys and their maximum ... minimum body temperatures.

The average measurements of ... rhythm of the physical functions and ... periods spent at sleep or awake reve... daily cycle of 25 hours. "The biolo... clock can only be governed from wi... as there is no 25-hour rhythm in natu... Dr Wever, head of the research ... concludes.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 15 September 19...)

■ **EDUCATION**

Feasibility report on schools paints disheartening picture

Teachers are not overworked, a report published by the Teaching and Education Association (VBE) claims – their services are merely inefficiently utilised. The Cologne-based Association commissioned scientists and educationalists to prepare a report listing the shortcomings of the Federal Republic's education system.

Professor Hermann Müller, the Frankfurt sociologist who was one of the main authors of the report, approached the issue from the point of view of a businessman and concluded that although the school system was the largest economic venture in the Federal Republic with an impressive one hundred milliard Mark programme so little attention was paid to management and economic feasibility that an industrial concern in the same position would soon go bankrupt.

It is typical of the current state of affairs, Professor Müller added, that claims that the school as a whole is out of date and ought to be abolished attract greater interest.

The authors of the VBE report did not go so far as to call for the abolition of schools but tried instead to find new methods to end the present pitiable situation through rationalisation, educational planning and management.

But schools cannot imitate the productive industries uncritically and merely take over their methods of rationalisation and management, Professor Müller conceded.

The reason must be found for why the

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ever-increasing expenditure on education only results in moderate rises in productivity. Müller believes that the major cause is the basic structure of school administration and control that has remained unchanged for 150 years and is, in his view, out of date.

He recommends that the Federal states' education ministers should first get off their high horses, surrender some of their powers and scale down much of the administrative responsibility within their ministries.

Another of the authors of the report claims that is just not true that education ministers run a one-man show within the education system. Yet another passage in the report states that education ministers can today be looked upon as equivalent to the directors general of large concerns with a comparable budget.

These "directors general" in their ministries run the risk of wasting milliards of Marks' worth of taxpayers' money and falsely utilising the potential of almost half a million teachers.

Schools have not kept pace with the advances of modern administration and have not accepted the principles of planning and rationalisation either financially or educationally.

Teachers, the report claims, are not given sufficient opportunity during their course of training to learn enough about the laws governing education, school administration, organisation and the like.

It is also regrettable, the report states, that the best teachers often run the risk of being switched to a post for which they are not suited as a result of the misguided belief that a good teacher must be a good educational administrator.

This type of selection procedure causes trouble for any teacher who is an excellent educationalist but lacks the qualities of an administrator as he will automatically find himself in competition with adequately trained civil servants, usually law graduates, who know far more about administration.

To remedy this state of affairs, the VBE suggests scrapping the current fossilised system and appointing school managers who could be trained in schools of management run by one or more Federal states.

It would also be advisable, the association states, to arrange an additional course of study for the advisory teachers required for special duties at every school. Professor Müller sees no alternative to the establishment of a college for school planning, organisation and administration.

Professor Hasso von Recum points out in the report that overcoming the crisis currently affecting education demands extraordinary efforts in educational policy and research. The education authorities could take a leaf out of the book of ambitious concerns which have become successful due to a combination of energy and hard work. The ability of a teacher cannot be utilised correctly as long as he is forced to shoulder a number of responsibilities, the Professor adds.

Politicians specialising in education will probably differ in their opinions of the report. But politicians responsible for finance will all take much the same view, especially as they are always complaining about being poor.

But Recum still demands that teachers allocated tougher responsibilities in the process of the planned redistribution of labour should be awarded a correspondingly higher salary.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 September 1973)

Photo show

Continued from page 11

Pawek has exercised his own form of critical analysis. Next to the beauty parlour in Abidjan he shows the picture of a priest in Biafra taking the body of a dead child off a lorry.

There are many aspects of this exhibition, being shown at Hamburg's Kunstverein. Of course the 434 pictures do not all show a world that is bankrupt. With so many pictures on show there are bound to be a few that each visitor to the exhibition likes, maybe even a few that make him smile or laugh.

It is fascinating to think that after its premiere in Hamburg the exhibtion will tour the world for the next five years and will be seen by people in 350 different places.

Erika Brenken

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 17 September 1973)

THINGS SEEN AND HEARD

Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft – 75 years old

DIE WELT

This year has already seen the golden jubilee of radio and now there is another milestone in the audio world. Records and the Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft are 75 years old.

Both the invention of records, which actually dates from 1887, and the founding of the German record company in 1898 are by and large the work of one man. He was the German-American Emil Berliner, born 1851 in Hanover, who emigrated to the United States in 1870.

The audio world (and the public via television) celebrated this event with a festival organised by Polydor International, the successor of Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft, on 18 September at the Congress Centre, Hamburg.

This included speeches (by Federal President Gustav Heinemann and Karl Böhm) atmosphere provided by Peter Ustinov and art in the shape of the specially commissioned work *1898* by Mauricio Kagel.

Without detracting from the achievements of others the history of Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft can be said to be synonymous with the history of recorded sound, although EMI, the British firm, the ancestor of which was "The Gramophone Company" began operating in 1898 with a licence from Emil Berliner, is entitled to a similar claim.

Berliner had already made a name for himself by selling the patents for his invention, the microphone, to the Bell Telephone Company for $75,000 when he made his first experiments with records in 1887.

These differed from the cylinders with which Thomas Edison was experimenting at the same time in that the sound was recorded laterally and not vertically and used an acid bath in a kind of etching process. It was this that Berliner patented.

Berliner's discs were played back via a sharp needle and a membrane.

The repertoire with which he demonstrated his discs to the highly respected Franklin Institute in Philadelphia in 1888 consisted of "Yankee Doodle Dandy" sung by a baritone, a cornet solo, "Home, sweet home" sung by a soprano and the American Declaration of Independence spoken by Berliner himself.

His invention caused quite a stir but the first American reproductions of his discs were not exactly popular as entertainment. One newspaper wrote: "Listeners to these discs cannot help but compare the sound with the braying of a wild ass." The paper added that the instrument itself was not exactly an encouraging piece of furniture.

The first industrial production of Berliner's invention under licence was by a toy firm in Thüringia in 1889, producing miniature gramophones and records with a diameter of twelve centimetres. These were a flop.

The first commercial success for the invention came in 1898 when Emil Berliner and his brother Joseph who provided the money got together in Joseph's small telephone manufacturing company in Hanover and founded the Deutsche Grammophon Gesellschaft.

Demand increased rapidly even though the first records were quite primitive, having a diameter of seventeen centimetres (about seven inches) and a running time of only about two minutes each side. The firm's name and trade mark were stamped on to the discs and the name of the piece and performer were engraved by hand.

By 1901 when the first recordings with Chaliapin were made in Moscow and the first 25-centimetre shellack discs with a running time of three minutes per side were produced DGG already had a large enough repertoire to be able to advertise in *"Die phonographische Zeitschrift"*: We offer 5,000 recordings in all languages of the world, good quality! Loud quality! Natural quality! Hard discs — not flabby cylinders.

A milestone in the history of recorded sound came in 1902 in Milan when the then scarcely known tenor Enrico Caruso first stepped in front of the disc recording apparatus. In those early days nearly all discs were vocal since the recording technique in its early experimental stages could not cope with more than a piano as "orchestral" accompaniment.

Demand also called for arias from operas, and songs. Among the arias, for instance, was the *Call of the Valkyries* — the name of the composer was so well-known that it was not even mentioned on the label.

One man from those pioneer days is still alive to recall them. He is Wilhelm Blanke who worked with DGG from 1907 and was for many years sales director. Today he is a lively pensioner who well remembers from personal experience the "avantgarde" mechanical-acoustical solo recordings with singers.

He said: "The singer stood immediately in front of the recording trumpet. The producer stood immediately behind him or her. It was particularly exciting when a record was being made by a soprano. When she hit the high notes the sound waves were so strong that they caused a screeching sound on the record. The only way to balance this out was for producer to grab the lady by the waist and adjust her position in front of the trumpet, pushing and pulling her backwards and forwards."

In 1903 the first thirty-centimetre records with a playing time of four to four-and-a-half minutes appeared and caused quite a stir despite the horrendous price of twenty goldmarks. These enjoyed quite good sales in the toy and bicycle shops which were responsible for selling them at the beginning of the century. Music shops and musical instrument merchants turned up their noses at this "canned music".

The first two-sided records appeared in 1904 and shortly afterwards DGG produced the first "Gramola" record-players without the distinguishing horn, and for the first time records and record-players became acceptable in the drawing-room.

Still the record industry suffered from a lack of quality recording stars. Orchestras were not keen to be committed to record, because the string section never came across. Bruno Seidler-Winkler, the recording manager in those days, tried everything possible to get the full, rich sound of the orchestra, but success eluded him.

Nevertheless by 1908 Seidler-Winkler was making recordings of complete operas. Bizet's *Carmen* for instance was recorded in its entirety in an album with eighteen discs. The price: 90 goldmarks. The pleasure of hearing *Carmen* in your own home was not only a strain on your purse, but also on your muscles. Wilhelm Blanke said: "We must remember that till the mid 20s each 30cm disc weighed about 300 grams (a modern LP weighs about 135 grams). And in those days each side played for only about five minutes.

In the early days there were only about four grooves to the millimetre — on a modern microgroove record there are up to eighteen. So when the *Carmen* fan bought that album he staggered home with a weight of over twelve pounds!

"His Master's Voice" label was introduced in 1909 and helped to popularise the record industry before it was sold to the British firm EMI. In that year DGG became the official supplier of records and gramophones to the British and Spanish courts.

At last in 1910 technicians captured string instruments on record. Proudly DGG launched "The Gramophone String Orchestra". At long last it was possible to produce records with a full orchestra doing justice to the score.

The first recording of a piano concerto was made, and introduced a young pianist for whom a bright future was predicted. His name was Wilhelm Backhaus. He recorded the first movement of the Grieg Piano Concerto, though this had to be abridged by more than fifty per cent.

Another great first came in 1911 with the recording of the Dresden premiere of *Der Rosenkavalier*.

When *Parsifal* was released by Bayreuth for outside production in 1913 DGG were quick to step in and commit orchestral passages to disc; EMI came out with the complete Beethoven Fifth Symphony with Arthur Nikisch and the Berlin Philharmonic. This was the first time a symphony had ever been recorded *in toto*.

Emil Berliner (Photo: Polydor International)

Composers such as Richard Strauss and Hans Pfitzner were regular conductors on gramophone recordings in the 1920s. In 1924 Hans Knappertsbusch recorded Tchaikovsky's 6th Symphony "complete and faithful to the score" as the advertisements for the records stated. Oskar Fried, a conductor who is today forgotten, ventured into Stravinsky's *Firebird* and even had a go at Mahler's second symphony.

The following year Max von Schillings and Hermann Abendroth recorded tone poems by Richard Strauss, and other recordings were made by conductors such as Leo Blech, Otto Klemperer and Bruno Walter.

Among the soloists recording for DGG were pianists Eugen d'Albert and Wilhelm Kempff, who is still recording for the DGG label today, fifty years on, and violinists Micha Elman, Carl Flesch and Fritz Kreisler.

When Puccini's unfinished opera *Turandot* was premiered in 1926 Fritz Busch had a recording of it made before the year was out. In the same year a Beethoven cycle was begun using the new electro-acoustic microphone and amplifier. This new invention made it possible to record major choral works such as the *Missa Solemnis* and church music performed by the Leipzig St Thomas choir.

Improvements in recording technique graced the début of the conductor Wilhelm Furtwängler in 1927 with a performance of Beethoven's 5th symphony. The tonal quality of Ravel's *Bolero*, conducted by the composer benefited greatly from this new system.

The first million seller came in 1929 and was announced at the Christmas party of DGG. It was *The Archangel Gabriel announcing Christ's Birth to the Shepherds*. DGG reported that one wholesaler wired them with an order for "100,000 Archangels".

The 21st new recording of the Prologue to *I Pagliacci* was made in 1931. In 1933 another Richard Strauss premiere was captured on record with extracts of *Arabella* by Clemens Krauss and the Dresden ensemble.

The first complete recording of Bach's Brandenburg Concerti was made in 1935 with the Berlin Philharmonic, and 1938/1939 were marked by conductors Victor de Sabata and Herbert von Karajan joining DGG.

Karajan's debut was with the overtures to *The Magic Flute* and *The Force of Destiny*, Smetana's *Vltava* and Dvořák's *New World Symphony*.

Karajan's debut marks the beginning of the modern era of records with the great milestones being the introduction of plastic LPs in 1951 and stereophonic sound in 1958.

Bernd Plagemann

(Die Welt, 15 September 1973)

DVA's 125th anniversary



Deutsche Verlagsanstalt (DVA), the Stuttgart publishing company, will this year celebrate its 125th anniversary. With an annual turnover of over fifty million Marks and a staff of 780 DVA is one of the best-known of this country's publishing concerns.

DVA's literary tradition was founded by writers such as Wilhelm Raabe, Tolstoy, Mark Twain and Ricarda Huch. The better-known modern writers who began their career with DVA include Hermann Lenz, Wolfgang Hildesheimer, Paul Celan, Johannes Bobrowski and Christoph Meckel.

During the past 25 years the house has also made a name for itself as a publisher of non-fiction. The periodical *Bild der Wissenschaft*, the largest scientific magazine in Europe, set new standards for the DVA's range of books. Professors Heinz Haber and Karl Steinbuch are among the writers of books published in the DVA's range of non-fiction.

DVA was founded in 1848 by 26-year-old bookseller Eduard Hallberger. His first publication was a volume of revolutionary songs. The Hallberger Verlag was converted into a joint-stock company after its founder died in 1880. One of its best-known publications during the nineteenth century was the *Illustrierte Welt* which sold one hundred thousand copies an issue even as far back as the eighteen-fifties.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 5 September 1973)

THE ARTS

Mary Wigman – ecstasy in the dance

Mary Wigman died recently in Berlin at the age of 86 but her work and art lives on in ballets created by Jerome Robbins in New York, Maurice Béjart in Paris and Brussels, Jochen Ulrich in Cologne and the late John Cranko in Stuttgart.

The story began shortly before World War One as Expressionism, a new form of expressive art somewhere between storm and stress, overthrew the idols of traditional art. The new artistic revolution did not spare traditional ballet with its fixed set of rules. "Free Dance" made a breakthrough.

Isadora Duncan, the American dancer, achieved her first triumphs. Hundreds of young girls stormed the stage to demonstrate what moved them with methods far removed from those of Classical ballet.

Dance became direct and undisguised body language. One of these young girls came from Hanover. Her name was Marie Wiegmann. She was soon known throughout the world as Mary Wigman, her stage name.



Mary Wigman (Photo: dpa)

Grete Wiesenthal, Vienna's answer to Isadora Duncan, sent her to Emile Jacques-Dalcroze in Dresden. The wife of artist Emil Nolde took her to Rudolf von Laban.

Jacques-Dalcroze and Laban, the two famous theoreticians of Free Dance, gave her the training that set her a cut above all her rivals. Mary Wigman became the figurehead of a ballet revolution and the celebrated goddess of Expressionist Dance, which went down in ballet history as the "German Dance of Expression".

Mary Wigman provoked, shocked and inspired audiences at the beginning of the twenties with her "ecstatic dances" She named her creations *Monotony I*, *Monotony II*, *Face of Night*, *Lament*, *Triangle* and *Vision*.

Photographs of the period reveal Mary Wigman as a dancing Barlach figure. Long robes conceal her powerfully-built body. Her arms and expressive hands provide visual signals. Her head is thrown back under its weight of curly red hair grown almost to the shoulder. Her face is hidden by a mask borrowed from the Japanese No theatre.

Mary Wigman took her ideas from all cultures. She danced to the strains of a Chinese gong, to Western concert music, Balkan folksongs and percussion rhythms. She often danced without the accompaniment of music.

The body had its own rhythm and own internal music, she claimed. She demanded ecstasy and motion, expression and expressiveness. "There can be no ballet without ecstasy," became her artistic tenet.

Champions of classical ballet booed her off stage, her admirers mobbed her. "What is she? A mortal, a woman? No, an element like fire and wind," her biographer Rudolf Delius wrote. "The language of dance is the language of the soul," Mary Wigman herself once stated.

But her style of dancing was always more than a mere eruption of feelings, it also expressed something: "Dance belongs to the moment and yet its effects can continue to be felt afterwards. It can become a never-to-be-forgotten experience when its artistic form is full and complete."

The search for an artistically perfect form of dance became Mary Wigman's aim in life. She unchained the possibilities lurking in motion and gesture and developed them into an eloquent, readily comprehensive and highly effective language expressing emotion, the tenderest feelings and profoundest thoughts. The precise sensuality of her movements, her cool dream visions radiated a compulsive force which nobody could escape. Her art conquered the world. In 1928 she travelled abroad with her ensemble for the first time and starred in London. Mary Wigman was as good a teacher as she was a dancer. She set up a school in Dresden as early as 1920 to communicate her ideals of group dance and dramatic ballet. Her pupils included such famous dancers as Harald Kreutzberg, Madame Palucca, Yvonne Georgi and Dore Hoyer.

After the Nazis took power in 1933 Mary Wigman was suspected of being degenerate and "cosmopolitan". In the end she had to close her school and was refused permission to appear in public.

But her assistant Hanya Holm continued her work and choreographers like Alwin Nikolais developed her ideas. "German Dance" returned to Europe as "Modern Dance" and influenced more and more young dancers and choreographers after the years of neo-Classicism.

Mary Wigman enjoyed this second triumph. After the War she lived and taught for many years in Berlin and was one of the most sought-after ballet instructresses. No one who saw her will ever forget her, her fascinating though not particularly pretty face and her strangely compulsive gestures. Her famous post-war choreographies will not be forgotten either. They include Gluck's *Orpheus and Euridycee* and *Alcestis*, Handel's *Saul*, Orff's *Catulli Carmina* and *Carmina Burana* and Stravinsky's *Rites of Spring*.

Mary Wigman withdrew from public life in 1960 and published her book *Language of Dance* in 1963. "Today I am an old woman and, apart from the physical complaints that burden everyday life, a happy old woman," she wrote. "I have experienced all phases of life and am now entering the final period which ends in death as the crowning glory of life. I am not afraid of it . . ."

Armin Halstenberg

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 20 September 1973)

GDR to take part in Oberhausen's sport film festival

So far some 270 films from 32 countries have been entered for the 1973 Oberhausen Sports Film Festival which is due to be held from 22 to 26 October. The German Democratic Republic is taking part in the event for the first time and has entered a number of films.

A discussion on the use of audiovisual media in sport is to be held under the auspices of the Festival. Interest is particularly high among television companies. Twenty stations in America alone have promised entries.

(Die Welt, 17 September 1973)

Peking sends entry for Mannheim Film Festival

The selection jury of the 22nd Mannheim Film Festival due to be held from 8 to 13 October has more than three hundred films from 33 countries from which to make its choice.

The People's Republic of China has entered a film for the Festival for the first time. This year young documentary film makers from 26 countries will enter their first feature films for the grand prix award worth ten thousand Marks.

(Mannheimer Allgemeine, 13 September 1973)



Leni Riefenstahl's *A village in the Nuba Mountains, Sudan* (Photos: Katalog)

Photo show begins world tour in Hamburg

Are we really "On the road to Paradise"? What the title given to the world photography exhibition *Unterwegs zum Paradies* suggests is rather put in doubt than confirmed.

This the third international photography exhibition follows *Was ist der Mensch?* (1964) and *Die Frau* (1968) — What is Man? and Womankind.

This third exhibition follows most closely on the first. Once again Karl Pawek has been commissioned by *Stern* magazine to collect photos into a wide-ranging exhibition.

He had 50,000 pictures to choose from. In the end he chose 434 photographs by 170 photographers from 86 countries. These are impressive figures that say everything and nothing.

It is perhaps more important to note that the pictures were selected more for their meaning than for any aesthetic reason.

Photographs that play with form, light and objects are the exception rather than the rule.

The quality of the exhibition is determined by pictures that show human brutality, poverty, hopelessness and misery, fears and anxieties and the warping effects of civilisation.

They depict an Earth that has become Hell for Mankind, an existence from which he flees to artificial paradises. *Unterwegs zum Paradies* is not so much a pointer to a heavenly future, but shows just how far Mankind is form Paradise.

Pawek undertook his job with a promise that he would "make the message of this exhibition a positive social evolution in which I believe". The reality that these photos depict means that he fails to achieve this ambition. The theme of the exhibition becomes both provocative and cynical.

The exhibition is divided up into various sections which give it a rather cramped outlook. They are entitled: "The dream of Paradise", "Far from Paradise", "How does Man react?", "Fixations", "New steps". This sectionalisation is less convincing than the pictures themselves.

Challenges to view the exhibition as a "photo essay", seem based on a grey literary theory, especially when one is confronted with shocking pictures of starving children in Biafra, cripples in Vietnam and beggars worn so thin they are nothing more than skin and bone.

Where pictures were too pretty-pretty

Continued on page 13



Timm Rautert's *View of the Rockefeller Center, New York*

■ MEDICINE

Neurosurgeon outlines neurosurgical problems at Nuremberg conference

So much new and startling information has been gained recently about inflammatory diseases of the central nervous system affecting children that the Paediatric Association congress in Nuremberg could not ignore the subject.

The range of complaints covers both well-known ailments such as meningitis and specific viral diseases which were first only recognised as such when contracted by animals but which have now been observed to be the outcome of a virus infection in the case of human beings as well.

But it was a neurosurgeon and not a paediatrician that held the congress spellbound. Professor Wolfgang Schiefer, head of Erlangen University Neurosurgical Hospital, dealt with the various

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operations possible on brain abcesses, accumulations of pus and other complications arising from inflammatory diseases of the brain and then cited an admittedly extreme situation which would force a doctor to examine his conscience at length before finally taking a decision.

Professor Schiefer outlined the broad range of opportunities open to the surgeon where diagnosis, surgery and other forms of treatment are concerned. But he did not conceal the difficulties facing neurosurgeons.

There are two main reasons for these difficulties. Firstly, there are the peculiarities of a child's organism which may react differently to an operation than an adult's. Secondly, the infectious nature of disease may take the decision to operate more difficult but it can also make it inevitable.

Bearing in mind this uncanny dual nature of all surgical operations, Wolfgang Schiefer cited the case of a child with a congenital deformity of the spinal column, a special form of spina bifida known as myelocoele typified by hydrocephalus and other anomalies as well as by the protusion of the spinal cord through a defect in the vertebra.

"Should a surgeon operate in a case of this type even when there exists an inoperable paralysis of the legs, bladder and intestines and the child is mentally handicapped, will never be able to take care of himself and will probably die sooner or later of a complication that cannot be cured?" Professor Schiefer asked.

His answer spoke for itself: "Modern medicine can achieve so much by means of surgery that the only question is whether there is any point in conducting a planned operation."

Professor Schiefer could have made no more effective mention of the responsibility forcing neurosurgeons and paediatricians to take joint action, especially in cases involving inflammation of the central nervous system.

Seen in this light — and science should always be forced to make problems appear so intelligible — the talks given at the congress on the various diseases affecting the central nervous system took on new significance.

In his opening address as congress president, Professor Adolf Windorfer, head of Erlangen University Children's Hospital, stated that meningitis was today the most common disease endangering the life of children and claimed that the equally dreaded encephalitis was still not given due attention in the medical world.

His claim was backed up by what two paediatricians, Professor I.B. Mayer of Homburg and Professor I. Ströder of Würzburg, had to say about meningitis and encephalitis.

As Mayer said in his excellent speech, we know today that apart from viruses such important factors as the growth, development and maturity of the child's brain contribute towards the emergence of encephalitis.

The strength or weakness of the child's immunological defences determine the severity of the disease. The younger the child's organism is, the worse the cell damage caused by viruses.

To put it another way, the organism's sensitivity decreases as its discriminatory faculties increase. Unfortunately, nature is so complicated that no fixed set of rules can be drawn up. It is also too soon to speak of effective medical treatment.

Professor Ströder stated that an inadequate immunological system could also increase the severity of an attack of meningitis. Cases of meningitis reach their peak in the summer months. One of the main causes is an inborn error of metabolism. Multiple sclerosis too is almost certainly a virus-induced disease of the nervous system.

Alfred Püllmann

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 September 1973)

Space travel has transformed thought patterns

Scientist and journalist Professor Karl Steinbuch has described the development of space travel as an epoch-making turning-point for millions of people.

Opening the first International Congress for Aeronautic and Space Medicine in Munich, Professor Steinbuch stated that experiencing the Earth as a planet in space had led to a similar change in human thought as Nicholas Copernicus' discovery five hundred years ago that the Earth did not stand at the centre of the universe.

"Space travel has transformed the thought and conduct of millions of people more thoroughly than any other event in recent decades," Professor Steinbuch stressed.

Among the effects of this turning-point is the greater attention paid to environmental protection and international communication. The public would not have recognised the threat of pollution if it had not been shown a picture of the Earth flying alone through space, the Professor claimed.

The international communications network enables greater solidarity among people living under varying political systems, he stated. It is wrong to condemn technical progress because of the dangers it entails, he argued. What he described as human progress is becoming increasingly vital to cope with the problems at hand.

Some 450 doctors from 54 countries attended the congress. Apart from the Federal Republic, the United States was well represented. The American delegates mainly spoke about the Apollo and Skylab programmes and examinations of aerospace medicine. Twelve Russian scientists spoke of their experiences in the Soviet Union.

Professor Erwin Lauschner, who chaired the congress, stressed the importance of aerospace medicine. Every year between ten and twenty million air passengers — over three per cent of the total carried — are under constant medical treatment.

Every doctor today must deal with the problems of aerospace medicine as a result of the increase in air travel. Professor Lauschner therefore stressed the need of incorporating aerospace medicine in university medical courses. At present no university in the Federal Republic has a chair of aerospace medicine and courses in it are only offered by six universities.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 18 September 1973)

Underwater treatment

Underwater therapy has a great future ahead of it, according to Dr Josef Reusch of the life rescue association DLRG. Dr Reusch claims to have cured circulatory disorders, serious cold diseases involving high blood pressure and the after-effects of heart attacks by treating patients in pressure chambers capable of simulating conditions forty metres below sea level.

Speaking to the 650 doctors attending a medical congress in Vancouver, Canada, Dr Reusch stated that it may also prove possible one day to radiate cancer sufferers under high pressure conditions.

He also spoke of the successful application of high-pressure therapy in the treatment of fractured bones, burns, defects of the eye as well as during surgery. Dr Reusch placed patients in the pressure chambers he has developed and exposed them to a pressure equivalent to that found at a depth of forty metres.

As a passionate diver, Dr Reusch found a number of years back that if any of his fellow-divers with a cold spent a longish period of time at a depth of forty metres they would return to the surface almost completely cured.

Reusch believes that the curative process is encouraged by the increased enrichment of the blood with oxygen as a result of the high pressure prevailing below surface level.

Reusch has already conducted some thirty thousand high-pressure experiments on more than seven thousand patients. He first treated patients suffering from vertigo, respiratory trouble, states of shock and arteriosclerosis in his two steel chambers. He attached them to breathing apparatus and produced high atmospheric pressure by feeding compressed air into the chambers.

The results of some of his experiments possess an oddity value. He managed for instance to cure a dog of partifal paralysis by means of this high-pressure treatment.

Reusch, who is head of the Institute of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation in Nittel, near Trier, passed on the results of his experiments to the doctors from twenty countries attending the International Congress for High Pressure Medicine.

Experiments with high-pressure chambers were conducted in South Africa and the United States two years ago. The method was used at this time to help make childbirth easier.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 12 September 1973)

Dentists with bad teeth

Delegates attending an American dentists association congress conducted a spot-check of the dentist's own teeth — and their findings were depressing. According to the medical journal *Zahnärztliche Praxis*,, published in Munich, 95 per cent of the dentists attending the congress were found to have bad teeth. Sixty per cent had caries and 35 per cent diseases of the gum. Only five per cent had healthy teeth and gums.

(Kieler Nachrichten, 15 September 1973)

Behavioural scientists probe the human clock

Deep inside Bavaria's "holy mountain", unseen by pilgrims journeying to the church and beer garden at Andechs Monastery, scientists of the Max Planck Institute are busy tracking down the mysteries of the biological clock that governs the rhythm of the body's physical functions and is usually only noticed when it breaks down.

If a traveller flies from Frankfurt to New York for instance he will have to put his watch back five hours after his eight-hour flight. But by the next morning at the latest he will have found difficulty in adjusting his physical functions.

He will wake up at his normal hour — which is the middle of the night in New York. He will often feel unwell for days and will not be able to approach his work with his accustomed verve. The simple explanation for this is that his biological clock needs time to adjust.

Nachrichten

Scientists at the Max Planck Institute for Behavioural Physiology in Erling-Andechs conducted a series of experiments in two subterranean chambers built into the hill beneath Andechs Monastery.

They already knew that the physiological functions of the human organism are subject to change during the course of the day and that physical performance and sensitivity towards outside impulses depend on the time of day.

Experiments on rats revealed that the same dose of X-rays led to death within thirteen hours when administered in the evening and only after 120 days when administered in the morning. Demands were then made that medical treatment for humans — the use of drugs or radiation — should be adjusted according to the time of day.

So far two hundred people have spent three or six weeks in the subterranean caves completely cut off from the outside world. As they were unable to see sunlight or hear radios or other sounds that might give them a clue as to the time of day it was, the human guinea pigs depended solely on their own sense of time. The scientists soon found a considerable difference between the days of their guinea pigs and the actual 24-hour rhythm governing life on the surface.

The inhabitants of the underground chambers soon began to bed down at noon and start work at midnight. There was a corresponding shift in their vegetative functions such as the activity of their kidneys and their maximum and minimum body temperatures.

The average measurements of the rhythm of the physical functions and the periods spent at sleep or awake revealed a daily cycle of 25 hours. "The biological clock can only be governed from within as there is no 25-hour rhythm in nature," Dr Wever, head of the research team concludes.

(Bremer Nachrichten, 15 September 1973)

EDUCATION

Feasibility report on schools paints disheartening picture

Teachers are not overworked, a report published by the Teaching and Education Association (VBE) claims — their services are merely inefficiently utilised. The Cologne-based Association commissioned scientists and educationalists to prepare a report listing the shortcomings of the Federal Republic's education system.

Professor Hermann Müller, the Frankfurt sociologist who was one of the main authors of the report, approached the issue from the point of view of a businessman and concluded that although the school system was the largest economic venture in the Federal Republic with an impressive one hundred milliard Mark programme so little attention was paid to management and economic feasibility that an industrial concern in the same position would soon go bankrupt.

It is typical of the current state of affairs, Professor Müller added, that claims that the school as a whole is out of date and ought to be abolished attract greater interest.

The authors of the VBE report did not go so far as to call for the abolition of schools but tried instead to find new methods to end the present pitiable situation through rationalisation, educational planning and management.

But schools cannot imitate the productive industries uncritically and merely take over their methods of rationalisation and management, Professor Müller conceded.

The reason must be found for why the

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ever-increasing expenditure on education only results in moderate rises in productivity. Müller believes that the major cause is the basic structure of school administration and control that has remained unchanged for 150 years and is, in his view, out of date.

He recommends that the Federal states' education ministers should first get off their high horses, surrender some of their powers and scale down much of the administrative responsibility within their ministries.

Another of the authors of the report claims that is just not true that education ministers run a one-man show within the education system. Yet another passage in the report states that education ministers can today be looked upon as equivalent to the directors general of large concerns with a comparable budget.

These "directors general" in their ministries run the risk of wasting milliards of Marks' worth of taxpayers' money and falsely utilising the potential of almost half a million teachers.

Schools have not kept pace with the advances of modern administration and have not accepted the principles of planning and rationalisation either financially or educationally.

Teachers, the report claims, are not given sufficient opportunity during their course of training to learn enough about the laws governing education, school administration, organisation and the like.

It is also regrettable, the report states, that the best teachers often run the risk of being switched to a post for which they are not suited as a result of the misguided belief that a good teacher must be a good educational administrator.

This type of selection procedure causes trouble for any teacher who is an excellent educationalist but lacks the qualities of an administrator as he will automatically find himself in competition with adequately trained civil servants, usually law graduates, who know far more about administration.

To remedy this state of affairs, the VBE suggests scrapping the current fossilised system and appointing school managers who could be trained in schools of management run by one or more Federal states.

It would also be advisable, the association states, to arrange an additional course of study for the advisory teachers required for special duties at every school. Professor Müller sees no alternative to the establishment of a college for school planning, organisation and administration.

Professor Hasso von Recum points out in the report that overcoming the crisis currently affecting education demands extraordinary efforts in educational policy and research. The education authorities could take a leaf out of the book of ambitious concerns which have become successful due to a combination of energy and hard work. The ability of a teacher cannot be utilised correctly as long as he is forced to shoulder a number of responsibilities, the Professor adds.

Politicians specialising in education will probably differ in their opinions of the report. But politicians responsible for finance will all take much the same view, especially as they are always complaining about being poor.

But Recum still demands that teachers allocated tougher responsibilities in the process of the planned redistribution of labour should be awarded a correspondingly higher salary.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 September 1973)

Photo show

Continued from page 11

Pawek has exercised his own form of critical analysis. Next to the beauty parlour in Abidjan he shows the picture of a priest in Biafra taking the body of a dead child off a lorry.

There are many aspects of this exhibition, being shown at Hamburg's Kunstverein. Of course the 434 pictures do not all show a world that is bankrupt. With so many pictures on show there are bound to be a few that each visitor to the exhibition likes, maybe even a few that make him smile or laugh.

It is fascinating to think that after its premiere in Hamburg the exhibtion will tour the world for the next five years and will be seen by people in 350 different places.

Erika Brenken

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 17 September 1973)

OUR WORLD

Hotel business becoming a crooks' stamping ground

A new aspect of crime has appeared in hotels and inns in this country. The catering business has become the training ground for rising or already risen stars in the underworld. These criminals have extended their power not only to the less respectable aspects of the catering business but also to those establishments that are run on orderly lines for law-abiding citizens. In all parts of the Federal Republic hotels and inns are threatened by the gradual encroachment of criminal elements into their normal activities.

Dr Herbert Schäfer of the Federal Republic restaurateurs association spoke of this in a statement made in Bremen, although Dr Schäfer emphasised that his views were his own and in no way reflected official opinions that might be held by Bremen city officials or the Bremen police.

Dr Schäfer, a criminologist, said that 1.4 percent of all break-ins in the Bremen area involved pubs and hotels. For the past year the solved rate was about 25 percent of all these break-ins. Owners of hotels and inns have to suffer with patience the depredations of these criminals.

If the underworld's invasion of this aspect of life is not opposed forcefully then those parts of the Federal Republic's cities where people can go for amusement will become places of danger to the ordinary citizen – first the pubs and drinking houses, then streets and then whole districts.

These views are supported by studies made by the head of Bremen's crime squad which shows that the crime wave has spread via prostitution, accompanied by bars showing pornography, strip shows, sex shops, live shows, from major cities to middle-sized, and small cities and towns and even out into the countryside.

Dr Schäfer said: "This wave of crime has successfully become part of what could be called the leisure industry and an increasing number of criminals of all shadings are making more than a good living from it."

Dr Schäfer criticised the methods applied in granting licences for pubs and places of entertainment to open. In many cities in this country, according to Dr Schäfer, it is the practice to ask for only a certificate of good conduct in order to prove reliability. But since the reform of the Federal Registration Law this document does not contain many important facts. Some local authorities hesitate to ask for a police report on persons applying to open an establishment. Because of these lax regulations people who have a criminal record, prostitutes and receivers of stolen goods are able to obtain a licence without much difficulty. People who have been involved in illegal gambling and have committed offences against the health regulations applied to establishments where food and drink is served still get licences without trouble. Cases have been known in Bremen where licences have been granted to people who are "robbers and who have committed homicide".

Dr Schäfer has made a statement with documentary evidence in support dealing with a city of over 500,000 inhabitants – he describes the city no more fully than that. In this city 129 applications for licenses were received. Among these applicants there were 32 people, twenty five per cent of the total, who according to police criteria "because of their criminal record could not be considered suitable holders of a licence".

In one case a woman was just a front for someone else, and she had been convicted of criminal offences. The business became a brothel.

Dr Schäfer is basically in favour of the rehabilitation of people who have come into conflict with the law, but he asks the question whether it is right that a law which has the purpose of protecting the general public should be undermined in such a way.

Present methods of granting licences attract criminal elements, according to Dr Schäfer. They are able to enter the "upper world" of seeming respectability and put in operation their fundamentally criminal activities. They can with their own money and money from other sources open a pub along with accommodation for prostitutes and eros centres.

The last stage is to invest their tax-free gains in hotels and pubs in the south or in obscure businesses. This results as has been experienced in Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfurt and many other cities, in the establishment of local, regional, national and eventually Europe-wide organisations dealing in stolen furs, optical and electrical equipment, drugs, jewelry and arms.

For this reason, according to Dr Schäfer, it is important that regional and supra-regional political decisions be made by the authorities.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 20 September 1973)

Unhappy policemen

Most of the 33,000 police officers in North Rhine-Westphalia are unhappy with their employment. Only one in three would take up police work given another chance, according to a recently published survey conducted by the *Junge Gruppe* of the police association (GdP).

The survey covering 1,000 policemen from all departments and all age groups revealed that 64 per cent of them "would not in any circumstance join the police force if they again were given the choice."

On the other hand 33 per cent said that they would join the police if they had their time over again.

Asked what they considered the worst aspect of police duties 93 per cent said the boredom. Of those happy with the job 55 per cent answered that it was the lack of responsibility, poor working relations and the lack of democratic practices in the police service.

Seventy six of those who did not enjoy their work and 95 per cent of those who did say the best part of their work was dealing with people.

(Die Welt, 12 September 1973)

Political wrongdoing by foreigners

The number of foreigners who have been found guilty of wrongdoing for political motives has increased from 65 in 1969 to 257 last year, according to a statement made in Kiel by a spokesman for the Schleswig-Holstein police, speaking on matters that involved "the protection of Basic Law".

The collection and evaluation of statistics of this kind, given little attention until recently, has been assigned to the officials of department for the protection of Basic Law.

The spokesman added that "annually approximately 700 attempts to enlist people for espionage agencies from the East Bloc were uncovered by the Federal Republic intelligence service."

For this reason the Federal intelligence service has been entrusted with keeping an eye on the espionage activities of "foreign powers".

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 11 September 1973)

Spread of colour VM television

Neue Hannoversche Presse

By 1980 three out of four West German families will be watching colour television. At the moment only one house in five has a colour TV according to a survey conducted by the Commerzbank in Frankfurt in conjunction with the Italian finance house Banco di Roma and the French Crédit Lyonnais.

Sales of 5,700,000 colour television sets on the European market are expected for this year. Sales in this country are expected to be about two million.

At present the rate of conversion from black and white to colour is approximately the same as the rate of purchase of monochrome sets in the fifties. But it was not till the Olympic Games last year that a decisive increase appeared in colour sales.

The investigation into radio sales showed that turnover was stagnating, but at a high level. The market in car radios is buoyant. Three out of ten radios operating in the Federal Republic at present are car sets.

Among the most successful items in entertainment electronics are cassette tape recorders, hich have gained in popularity over the past few years and threaten to oust the conventional reel-to-reel recorders. About 300,000 tape recorders were manufactured in this country in 1971. 2,400,000 were imported. In 1972 the importation of cassette recorders increased by forty per cent.

(Neue Hannoversche, 21 August 1973)

Trouble in Hamburg's St Pauli district

Fed-up-with-the-sea sailors, landlubbers and nightowls looking for something amusing and different must have had a shock. A strike is threatened in St Pauli according to recent headlines that appeared in a yellow press paper published in Hamburg. A strike is threatened by all those who hold dear the world famous environs of the Reeperbahn, europe's naughtiest mile.

The paper reported that hotel porters, people running businesses in the area and landlords were all talking about a strike. According to them officialdom was the cause of all the excitement.

The potential strikers claim that police supervision has been getting tougher and tougher all the time.

One hotel porter said in describing the situation: "In the past couple of weeks all hell has been let loose her. One police raid has followed another."

These raids arynot expected to make quick returns, naturally. Police and Hamburg officials claim that the raids are just routine checks, for, after all, apart from the amusement industry more than 30,000 citizens live in the quarter, which granted is badly in need of modernisation in many ways.

There was for instance the case of the Berlin brothel king Hans Helmcke, who was done to death in the St Pauli apartment of a police officer. More is known about the underworld in St Pauli than among the other million or more citizens of Hamburg itself. Police are not welcome in St Pauli, that is for sure.

Obviously apart from the usual businesses that are carried on in St Pauli the Helmcke affair showed that things illegal were also a part of the scene.

Competition for customers in St Pauli is keen. Hypersensitivity on the naughty mile gets you nowhere.

"We know that we cannot importune people on the street," one porter complained, "but how are we to earn a living. The Big Boys here on the Grosse Freiheit have arrangements with travel agencies and bus companies offering tours of the city and hotels. They get customers without any trouble."

But as for the 450 or so small pubs, small and medium-sized, they do not have things so good. They are feeling the pinch of a declining tourist trade and fewer visitors.

In the good times the economic principle of supply and demand operates in St Pauli with a price structure and profit along ordinary business lines. When times get bad (and why not be honest and say that times are bad in St Pauli?) a way out is found by opportuning people on the streets and swindling.

Porters in St Pauli try more and more frequently to induce customers inside with whispered, double-meaning incitements whilst slyly showing in their first pornographic postcards. In St Pauli jargon this is called *kobern*. This is against the law in Hamburg, which prohibits touts from accosting people on a public way and offering them advertising material or trying to induce them into a bar or other establishment of amusement.

"This business of *kobern* is typical of Hamburg," commented Hans-Dieter Schirmer, head of the Hamburg city department responsible for economic affairs in St Pauli. Herr Schirmer claims that in Copenhagen, cities in America and London's Soho he had not met a similar pestering of pedestrians.

In 1972 there were 207 cases of pavement touts being brought before the courts in Hamburg. This year so far there have been 105 cases. If guilt is proved it can cost the wrongdoer as much as 1,000 Marks. If only negligence is proved it can cost up to 500 Marks.

Herr Schirmer is of the opinion that a strike in St Pauli, or even a switching off of outside neon lights, is rather unlikely. His office grants licences, and has the power to withdraw them – last year in 55 instances and this year in 24 cases so far.

But a new tenant takes over and the business goes on just as in the past. Usually the former owner turns up again in the same business as an employee. Then the front-man operation goes into action, difficult to prevent and even more difficult to prove.

But it must not be forgotten that for Hamburg's city fathers St Pauli is of considerable interest as a source of tax revenue. Hans-Dieter Schirmer said: "It would not be in the city's interests for St Pauli to disappear altogether."

Cäsar Meister senator responsible for housing, said: "No pressure would ever be brought on people living in St Pauli forcing them to leave this quarter of the city." His aim in making this comment was to calm fears that great upheavals were imminent for modernisation in the St Pauli quarter.

Hinrich Grote

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 15 September 1973)

SPORT

Free-style wrestling struggles for recognition

Grandmothers gasp, old-age pensioners whistle with two fingers in their mouths and children scream with delight. King Kong Moran, the seven foot four inch "Chicago Strangler" enters the ring. With chest expanded and a threatening gesture of the fist he awaits his opponent.

The Chicago Strangler, a Frankenstein figure of a man if ever there was one, is part of a troupe of sixteen wrestlers currently touring this country under the management of Nicola Selenkowitsch.

Unlike their public they take their sport seriously, living quietly and keeping in trim. Free-style, Selenkowitsch claims, is neither hokum nor sheer brutality; it is professional wrestling with no holds barred. Which is why no company is prepared to insure the participants: improvisation in the ring is too risky a business.

The men themselves, heavyweights one and all, are most particular in their choice of words. Ticket-sellers may not mince their words but for the wrestlers it is a serious business. Every tournament is worth points towards the world championship title.

"It doesn't worry us that people don't take us seriously," says Selenkowitsch. "That, after all, is why they come." And come in droves they do.

In 3000 BC wrestling was a popular sport in China. In Ancient Greece and Rome it was even part of the school curriculum. In those days it really was free-for-all. Today a number of ploys such as breaking fingers, pulling hair, strangling, tearing off noses and ears, gouging out eyes and bitting are forbiddden.

Selenkowitsch summoned up his courage and went into management in 1958. He came to this country from Yugoslavia in 1942, earned his living as a circus artist and wrestler, plied GIs with striptease dancers in return for cigarettes and chocolate, worked down the mines and opened a bar in Bremen in 1962.

"I wanted to plough the fields and scatter the message of wrestling," he claims, and despite gloomy forecasts by people who might be expected to have known what they were talking about he has succeeded.

His first tournament in Dortmund's Westfalenhalle in 1968 was attended by 147 paying customers. He now holds 247 meetings a year in 22 cities, grossing more than a million spectators each paying between six and twelve Marks – say ten million Marks in all. There can be no doubt that "Nico", himself an ex-wrestler, knows his trade. He knows, for instance, what the crowds want to see. "Wrestlers," he says, "must regain the prestige they once had. Wrestling must be accepted again."

One of the men who is presumably to help it to regain acceptance is super-heavyweight champion Otto Wanz, six feet two and 352 lb. Until the age of 22 Wanz was a boxer and boxed twelve times for Austria before turning professional. Two years later he became a wrestler.

"One day when I was in a tight corner I remembered my training as a boxer and simply knocked the other man out," he notes with a grin. "When your own skin is at stake the Devil take the hindmost," says Wanz, who owns a cafe in Vienna.

When he wrestles the spectators are invariably on the side of his puny opponent. Now and again he even leaves the ring to give the fans a dose of what is coming to them for calling him a "fat pig" and the like.

Wanz sleeps until mid-day, performs gymnastics in his hotel room and goes to the gym for a workout three times a week. So far he has waved goodbye to three teeth in the ring and survived two brain haemorrhages. "We never mention minor aches and pains such as breaks and sprains," he exaggerates rather grandly.

The only thing that annoys him about his, let us say, stature is his tailor's bills, but he will have to put up with them as long as he continues to eat a kilogramme of meat a day and eat the occasional twelve-portion cream cake.

Michael Nador of Hungary is also no stranger to broken fingers and ribs. "What is more," he adds, "I have broken my ears more than thirty times."

Nador made his getaway from the Hungarian national wrestling team while it was on its way to the Melbourne Olympics in 1956. A year later he turned professional. Nador is, in private life, a keen antique collector and interior designer.

Often enough wrestlers keep quiet about serious injuries in order not to be put out to graze from one day to next – even though they may badly be in need of a rest.

Wolfgang Saturski is a case in point. He wrestled day after day with broken fingers. "Often you only manage with the aid of pain-killing drugs, but there is no alternative," he says. Saturski, whose 48-year-old-father is still wrestling back home in Karlsruhe, is the only German ever to win the Royal Albert Hall Trophy.

The trophy is awarded to the Albert Hall, London, winner by Prince Philip and the audience come in dinner jackets and evening dresses, paying up to 250 Marks per ticket.

Selenkowitsch realises only too well that minor injuries are not all that occur. "Since I started out as a manager I have had to drag three corpses out of the ring You can take my word for it that I am going to put the next one on show for three Marks a glimpse. In the past the audience have invariably believed the wrestler has been shamming dead as he was carried off on a stretcher."

"Nico" never talks about wages. "Contracts are never made in writing. Like a couple of gansters we shake hands over a verbal agreement. No one knows exactly how much the others earn."

Otto Wanz is a little more forthcoming about what you can earn as a professional freestyle wrestler. "You usually earn between 300 and 500 Marks an evening," he says.

Take a mean figure of 400 Marks and multiply that by 250 meetings a year and the result is 100,000 Marks a year.

If anyone is still not satisfied, the big names such as reigning world champion Ivan Strogoff or King Kong Moran earn roughly 8,000 Marks a month.

Lutz E. Dreesbach

(Handelsblatt, 20 September 1973)

World Champion Ivan Strogoff with his opponent in a tough spot (Photo: Nordbild)

Top-flight athletes get too large a slice of the financial cake

In an open letter to the members of the sport sub-committee of the Bundestag the Association of Town and Local Authority Councils has issued a warning against concentrating too exclusively on financial support for competitive sport.

The association refers in its letter to comments by Heinz Oskar Vetter, general secretary of the Trades Union Confederation, and Jürgen Palm, manager of the Federal Republic Sports League, which represents nearly all organised sport in the country.

At the sixteenth annual conference of the Association of Local authority Sports Departments the TZC leader claimed that "top-rank athletes are spoilt children. The mass media make a song and dance about them and their performances and top-flight sport has not only become a fetish in our society but threatens to become a Holy Cow."

The letter also contains comments unfavourable to top-flight sport made by Sports League keep-fit campaign manager Jürgen Palm in an article for the association's journal *Städte- und Gemeindebund* in which Palm notes that there is a discrepancy in the relationship between top-flight sport and sport for the general public.

"A group of 5,000 people – a fortieth of one per cent of the total age group – benefit from planning, funds, structural improvements, nine tenths of what the Press has to say about Olympic disciplines: there is talk of virtually nothing but top-flight sport and Olympic artistry."

"On the other side of the coin," the keep-fit campain manager continues, "we have some twenty million people, roughly a third of the population. This silent majority is four thousand times the size of the small group of Olympic white hopes."

The association emphasises that it approves of support for top-flight athletes, yet at the same time it shares the view that the public have an inordinately high opinion of competitive sport and an undeservedly low one of sport for themselves.

(Die Welt, 13 September 1973)

Superb season for javelin ace Klaus Wolfermann

The worst is over now," says Olympic gold medallist Klaus Wolfermann. "The old apartment is empty and we are now decorating the new one." The family has just moved from a rented apartment to a home of its own, *the* status symbol of success if ever there were one.

Certainly, this country's ace javelin specialist has come to the end of a crucial season both in sport and in his private life. "The European Cup final in Edinburgh was my last event in the post-Olympic season, but I plan to start training for 1974 in November. I would dearly like to get quickly back into the form I was in at the end of this season."

Klaus Wolfermann has never left anything to chance. Sound workmanship has always been a hallmark of his. His 90.68 metre (297 ft 4 in) throw at Edinburgh, although he claims it was more good luck than good management, took him systematically ahead of Janis Lusis of the Soviet Union (84.48 metres, or 277 ft 1 in.) and Hanu Siitonen of Finland (84.08 metres, or 275 ft 9 in.).

"Klaus surprised me more in Edinburgh than he did in Munich," says Lusis, who in recent years has never been beaten by more than six metres. "This season I lost once to Siitonen but beat him in Edinburgh, whereas Wolfermann took twofolf revenge, having lost to both of in the course of the season."

Janis Lusis may not have said so in as many words, but it is clear what he meant: Klaus Wolfermann is a superb fighter and competitor, and Wolfermann is now prepared to review a superb season. "Even if my showing in Edinburgh had only been mediocre I would still have been satisfied with my post-Olympic season," he says.

It began with a world record throw that came as a surprise even to Wolfermann himself. Then he was put out of schedule for three months because of an elbow injury. "I really ought to have retired altogether in view of the injury," Wolfermann says, "but I am bound to say it gives me great satisfaction to have beaten the jinx."

His toughness and determination, which have always been the basis of his success, came to his aid again in Edinburgh when he suddenly had trouble with his Achilles tendon.

This, he transpired, was due to the elbow injury. The time he had spent doing nothing under doctor's orders had led to flagging technique in executing the last step of the run-up.

Despite his Olympic gold medal and two ninety-metre throws in 1972 America's *Track and Field News* rated him second to Lusis on his last season's showing a view that was generally considered to be accurate.

"I am looking forward to see how they rate me this season," Wolfermann says. First there is his world record throw of 94.08 metres (308 ft 9 in.), then his European Cup victory at Edinburgh and finally his improved mean distance for his ten best throws of the season from 86 metres to 87.09.8 metres.

That should be sufficient to ensure him first place in the javelin ratings. This season he has taken part in fourteen competitions, only twice throwing his javelin less than 84 metres (82.62 metres at the national championships in Berlin and 78.08 metres at a training contest in Munich on 1 September).

"There were a number of performances among the fourteen starts that I would have given my eye teeth for last season," Wolfermann says. Mind you, in the course of the season he lost twice to Lusis and once to Siitonen.

Michael Gernandt

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 13 September 1973)